



AZRAQ QANIS — His Majesty King Hussein about to shake hands with a young admirer at the Shumari Wildlife centre, Tuesday. This was when 31 oryx were released into their natural habitat. Looking on from the extreme right is the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip. See page 2



IRRID — Her Majesty Queen Noor chats with two school children during a tour of Irbid and some surrounding villages, Monday. See page 3

Hassan Ibrahim photo

PRCS still holds out, Dr. Arafat says

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) is continuing its work in the service of the Palestinian people, in spite of the setbacks it has suffered in Lebanon including the destruction of its facilities and hospitals, by the Israeli invasion forces, says PRCS President Dr. Fathi Arafat.

In an interview with The Star on Wednesday, Dr. Arafat listed the destroyed facilities, saying that one hospital in Tyre, one in Sidon, and two in Nabatieh were completely destroyed, along with three nursing schools, and three schools for emergency medical technicians. In addition, all outpatient and mother and child care clinics in the Palestinian camps of Lebanon were destroyed. But, he added, the PRCS hospitals in Beirut are still functioning.

Dr. Arafat came to Amman with a delegation to attend the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Conference of the

World Health Organization (WHO). He said he and his team are demanding that the WHO take steps to implement the resolution of the WHO General Assembly last May to establish three health centres in the occupied territories. Although these centres will be completely under the auspices of WHO, Israel has so far refused to allow them to be set up.

On Tuesday, 18 October the Amman conference made another resolution, which requires that information and statistics on the health situation of Palestinians in and outside the occupied territories be included in all WHO reports on the region.

A report submitted by UNRWA (the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees) frankly admitted UNRWA's inability to offer even the minimum health services to Palestinians in Beirut and southern Lebanon, due to the destruction of the PRCS facilities and hospitals.

Dr. Arafat described the health situation of Palestinians in Lebanon as deteriorating drastically, due to the loss of shelter and the simplest requirements of a normal life. He demanded speedy international moves by WHO, the International Committee of the Red Cross, UNICEF and other organizations to save the Palestinian people in Lebanon from deliberate medical neglect.

During the 1982 invasion of Lebanon the PRCS was able to treat 70,000 cases in the 25 emergency hospitals it set up, and has continued to offer its services in spite of near-impossible conditions. Dr. Arafat said that the murder of two doctors and several nurses during the Sabra and Shatila massacres in September 1982 was a deliberate attempt to discourage workers from their duties, but they continued in their dedication in spite of the threats, dangers and conditions.

The PRCS is responsible for the health of Palestinians everywhere. It has continued its work by completing a hospital in Homs, Syria; developing the Jaffa Hospital in Damascus, and establishing a new hospital in Yarmouk Camp, near Damascus, specialized in obstetrics, gynaecology and paediatrics. In Cairo, the new

300-bed Palestine Hospital has just opened. A nursing school for 100 male and female students started its first three-year course last month, and a nursing school in operation.

PRCS branches continue to be opened in new areas, such as in Greece and Cyprus. European-Palestinian committees supporting the work of the PRCS are increasing. There is also a WHO resolution giving Palestinians the right to establish health institutions and services wherever there are Palestinian concentrations. The PRCS is making all the necessary arrangements to facilitate the establishment of these institutions in new areas.

One current important PRCS project is the distribution of medals of recognition to all those who have helped bring medical or social services to Palestinians. They are going to European and American doctors who still come in large numbers to serve at Palestinian clinics and hospitals, and to all those who offer their help by one means or another — whether by supporting themselves to this area, or providing support in various ways from their own countries.

PLO-Jordan talks cause speculation of closer link

Continued from page 1

"The conspiracy against the Palestinian question has reached its acme. The Iraq-Iran war must be stopped at all costs so that all of us, whether on the Arab or Islamic level, can be free to confront the common Zionist enemy."

Mr. Hassan and Mr. Natsheh are expected to meet members of the Palestine National Council on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Fateh Central Committee, ending a meeting in Kuwait, issued an important political statement on Wednesday night. Earlier, it had taken some important decisions aiming at ending the rift within the movement, one of the most important of which was to send envoys to discuss the situation with Arab and friendly nations. Mr. Hassan's and Mr. Natsheh's visit to Jordan was a result of this decision, as was the visit of Mr. Saleh Khalaf (Abu Iyad) and Mr. Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) to the Democratic Republic of Yemen. They were to meet Yemeni officials, as well as the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine George Habash and Popular Democratic Front leader Nayef Hawatmeh.

The Central Committee also called for an emergency meeting on 7 November for the regional representatives of Fateh, and decided that the general conference of Fateh would take place in January 1984.

The general secretaries of all Palestinian factions and leaders of the Lebanese-national movement were invited to form a fact-finding committee to study the Tripoli events "away from the ten-

dentious atmosphere affecting the recent occurrences there."

The statement also quoted a recent report from the Moscow office of the Palestine Liberation Organization, sent to the Palestinian leadership in Tripoli, confirming that Soviet leaders have expressed their confidence in the "positive and effective role that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is playing in solving the differences among the Lebanese factions presently at war with each other in this country. They added that they were convinced that Fateh had protected the common groups there, and that they were not accepting the biased propaganda campaigns which attempted to put in doubt the position of the leaderships of both Fateh and the PLO."

Reuters news agency quoted WAFAP, the Palestinian news agency, as saying that Mr. Arafat had appealed to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov to extend help and support to the PLO and the Palestinian people "so that we can overcome the critical stage in the history of the Palestinian people, as they are facing imperialist and Zionist powers wishing to deprive them of their rights and political and socialist achievements embodied in the PLO."

In Damascus, a statement of the joint leadership of the PFLP and the PLO on Wednesday warned against any attacks on the Palestinian revolutionary forces in Tripoli by the insurgents and their supporters. The statement also said that the groups would condemn whichever party initiated an aggression, and made their position clear as being firmly against "bloody methods."

The Jerusalem Star

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US sticks to its guns

Bush tours site of attack, says Washington will not back down



BEIRUT (AP) — US Vice President George Bush on Wednesday visited the site of the truck-bomb attack on American Marines in Beirut and declared, "We're not going to let friends down because of terror."

"We're not going to let a bunch of insidious terrorist cowards shake the foreign policy of the United States," Mr. Bush told reporters as he stood amid the massive destruction at the Marines camp. "Foreign policy is not going to be dictated or changed by terror."

Mr. Bush's visit lasted only a few hours. After his tour of the Marine camp, the vice president met with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel at the presidential palace in suburban Baabda east of the capital.

US Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew's office confirmed that Mr. Bush had left Lebanon but it did not know what time the vice president departed.

Mr. Bush wore a flak jacket and steel helmet as he toured the ruins of the

four-story headquarters of the Marine battalion landing team at Beirut's International Airport.

Mr. Bush was accompanied by Marine Commandant Gen. Paul X. Kelley, Ambassador Bartholomew and Col. Timothy Geraghty, the commander of the Marine contingent here.

The Vice President and his party then went by helicopter to the presidential palace, and President Gemayel greeted him on the steps of the palace, Beirut Radio said.

The state-run station, which with other government media had the only access to

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MacEachen speaks carefully in calling for 'homeland'

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Canada supports "every constructive proposal which could lead to a just and durable peace" in the Middle East, "provided that such a proposal would be agreeable to all parties concerned," Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs MacEachen said this week.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with The Star, Mr. MacEachen added to his statement the careful proviso that "all parties concerned are in the meantime required to make certain compromises." He was answering a question regarding the specific proposal of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that a statement concerning the Palestinians' right to self-determination be included in President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace initiative.

Canadian minister arrives in Israel

TEL AVIV — Canadian Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen arrived on Wednesday at Ben-Gurion Airport for a three-day visit to Israel during which he is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens for talks.

Mr. MacEachen told reporters he would be discussing regional problems and reviewing bilateral relations between Israel and Canada in his talks with Israeli officials.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir, who welcomed Mr. MacEachen at the airport, emphasised the democratic values shared by Israel and Canada and said Israel is surrounded by countries that did not share these values.

In both the interview and a press conference on Wednesday, Mr. MacEachen said that Canada "would not rule out the establishment of a Palestinian state if negotiations between the parties involved would lead to such an outcome." But speaking to The Star, he made clear that his government remains firmly in support of Israel's "right to exist."

"We have always attempted to be fair-minded and objective with regard to the Middle East crisis and to maintain genuine relations with all Middle East countries, including Israel... We therefore upheld the right of Israel to exist and opposed all efforts aiming at the expulsion of Israel from the United Nations," he said in the interview.

Asked whether Canada feels it can play a role in the Middle East independent of US policy, he said, "Canada cannot substitute for the USA; besides, we have not been asked to do so."

Speaking in the interview about Israel's attitude towards peace, Mr. MacEachen said, "Israel, in my view, could play an effective role in the peace process... of course, Israel in order to prove its good intentions must immediately cease build-up settlements and withdraw from Lebanese soil." Canada has repeatedly condemned Israel for not taking these measures, he said.

Mr. MacEachen praised His Majesty King Hussein's peaceful efforts in the international political arena, and expressed the hope that the international community will show goodwill and understanding for his sincere aims before it is too late.

Lella G. Deeb reports:

In his press conference, held prior to his departure at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan, Mr. MacEachen was asked to give his definition of the desired "homeland" that should be set up for the Palestinian government spokesman Salman

Jordan's envoy in Rome shot in second attack

ROME (AP) — Gunmen on Wednesday shot and gravely wounded Jordan's ambassador to Italy in the second attack against a Jordanian envoy in two days, Italian News Agencies reported.

Police said they had picked up two armed men found near the site of the shooting for questioning, but refused to give other details. The AGI News Agency said the two men were the ambassadors' bodyguards who were trying to chase the gunmen.

The reports said Ambassador Taysir Aladein Toukan was listed in grave condition at the Umberto Policlinico with numerous gunshot wounds.

AGI said he had been hit by at least seven bullets, but the ANSA News Agency said there were only four wounds. Hospital spokesmen refused to give out any information. The ambassador's Egyptian driver, Mohammad Hidar Baud, was also listed in grave condition with gunshot wounds in his back and neck, AGI said.

The attack occurred at 1.40 p.m. (12.40 GMT) as Toukan was being driven home from the embassy in Piazza Verdi in the fashionable Parioli neighbourhood in northern Rome.

They said two men in a car pulled alongside the ambassador's white Chevrolet and opened fire with pistols and then fled.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mohammad Ali Khourma, Jordan's ambassador to India who was shot in another incident in New Delhi on Tuesday, was pronounced out of danger on Wednesday.

Police continued their search for the gunman, described by witnesses as West Asian, and said it was possible two other men were involved in the slaying attempt.

Mr. Khourma was moved to a private room at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences where two Jordanian doctors were to examine him later in the day, Indian government spokesman Salman

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Taysir Toukan

Haider told reporters. The doctors arrived here Wednesday afternoon aboard a special plane.

"The ambassador is out of danger," Haider said. "There are hopes he will recover fully."

Asked how the shooting would affect security next month during the visit by Britain's Queen Elizabeth and the Commonwealth heads of government meeting, Haider said, "This underlines the need for very strict security indeed."

The New Delhi police officer heading the investigation said witnesses descriptions varied. The witnesses said the gunman had a fair complexion and looked like a Jordanian or other West Asian, officer R. K. Sharma said.

Earlier, the Minister-Counselor at the Jordan embassy Mr. George Shamma, told the Associated Press that witnesses he

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jordan

Bush meets Gemayel in aftermath of suicide bombings in Beirut

Continued from page 1

the palace, said the meeting between Mr. Bush and Mr. Gemayel lasted an hour and 10 minutes, from 10 am until 11:10 am.

Mr. Bush made no comment to reporters after meeting Mr. Gemayel. At the airport he also met with Gen. Francois Cann, Commander of French troops here, and Gen. Franco Angioni, Commander of the Italian contingent of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force.

Mr. Bush paid tribute to the Italian soldiers helping in the effort to remove bodies of dead Marines. "See those Italian soldiers working there," he said. "It reminds you forcefully this is a multinational effort of co-operation between allies."

A Lebanese bulldozer driver working to shift the fallen chunks of the building was injured on Wednesday when one concrete slab shifted off the machine's scoop and pinned him in the cab. He was taken away by ambulance.

Cpl. Randy Burefoot, 21, was helping to dig out bodies on Wednesday. "We've given up hope anybody is alive," he said. "All the floors are pressed down and everything is squished."

The Pentagon said on Wednesday its latest toll was 219 Marines killed in the Sunday explosion. The Marine spokesman here said more than 75 had been injured, and he would not discuss the number of missing.

He had arrived amid tight security shortly before 9 am by helicopter from the USS "Iwo Jima" off the Lebanese coast. He had flown to the amphibious assault ship nearly two hours before and his arrival in Beirut was delayed, presumably by the firing on the Marine camp.

Gunmen wound Italy ambassador

Continued from page 1

had talked to also described the attacker as West Asian — possibly Iranian.

Officer Sharma added that the gunman was seen talking to two other West Asian men near the Jordanian embassy just before the attack, and that these men may also have been involved. "We have not been able to trace the culprit but we are

"I hadn't expected this much destruction," he said. "You heard it. You read it. But until you see it... I guess it's the horror, just the cowardly horror. You know what happened, what somebody did."

Mr. Bush said he had spoken with President Ronald Reagan just before leaving and added: "I think frankly he'd like very much to have done this trip, but..."

He said he was certain Mr. Reagan would not shift US policy towards Lebanon because of the attack on the Marines. Foreign policy is not going to be dictated or changed by terror, he said. We're not going to let down friends... we're not going to let a bunch of insidious terrorist cowards shape the foreign policy of the United States.

His visit came 48 hours after, French President Francois Mitterrand had visited his country's troops here, and President Gemayel said the two visits reassured the solidarity of the two friendly countries.

Meanwhile, 19 Marines wounded in the bomb blast left the British air base at Akrotiri, Cyprus on Wednesday for West Germany.

"I am looking forward to Christmas at home, and the New Year," one of the wounded, his legs heavily swathed in bandages, shouted at a group of newsmen and photographers watching the patients' departure.

The newsmen were not allowed to talk to any of the wounded Marines.

But US Ambassador to Cyprus Raymond Ewing, who visited the Marines and talked to each of them in the hospital, told the newsmen they were "still rather subdued and stunned by the terrible thing that happened."

making every effort to identify who it was," Sharma said. A number of people have been taken into custody for questioning, but none has been charged with the crime.

Police have posted a 15,000-rupee (\$1,500) reward in the case that so far has brought no results. No one has claimed responsibility and the motive remained unknown.



King Hussein receives Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Allen MacEachan (Petra photo)

Compromises needed, MacEachan says

Continued from page 1

inian people. "I think the word 'self' is fairly explanatory — a territory where a people make their home, where they have some stake, destiny and influence," he said. He added that he could not define the political structure of such a homeland before negotiations, which would create it. But, he said, the Reagan plan specified a Palestinian state in a federation with Jordan. "If it leads to that, it is fine with Canada, but Canada would not rule out an independent state."

"When we talk about a homeland, one has in mind the elements that constitute a state... without that essential element that is contained in the word sovereignty, for example..." The minister did not elaborate on this thought. He did, however, say that this was Canada's way of expressing its desire to see the "occupied territories" enjoyed by the Palestinians, where they will fulfill their aspirations...

Mr. MacEachan held the conference after an audience with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, during which they had discussed in detail matters concerning the occupied territories, particularly the Israeli settlement policy. "We have been very concerned about the settlements, and have made our view quite clear," he said. "Recently at the United Nations, I appealed to Israel to reconsider (the policy) and stated the view that they are illegal and an obstacle to the peace process."

"Canada believes the Palestinians have just rights and requirements... rights to participate in negotiations to determine

their future, and also a claim to a homeland in the West Bank and Gaza."

But he emphasized that "sovereignty and state" should be determined by negotiations. He added that the Reagan Plan was acceptable to many Arab states, including Jordan, so "why should Canada go beyond that?"

Another question put to the minister was whether, if he were to advise President Reagan on the Middle East, he would advise him to withdraw from Lebanon or get more involved. He responded that as Canada was not participating in the Multinational Force there, it could not advise another country which was. "It is apparent from my discussions that there is no intention, as I see it, for the US to withdraw. But it is not clear whether it will increase its presence in Lebanon."

Regarding Israeli violations of the human rights of Palestinians under occupation, he said what he had learned here will make him raise the question with the Israelis when he visits Tel Aviv. But the discussions here focused more on the developmental requirements of the people of the West Bank, particularly their economic requirements, and not on human rights.

Mr. MacEachan said that he had completed a very satisfactory visit to Jordan, where he had the opportunity to meet His Majesty King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan, Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qasbi and Minister of Social Development In'am Al-Mufti. He described the interchange of ideas as useful, going into both international questions and bilateral relations between the two countries.

Urban developers plan distribution of homes

By Steven Ross
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Urban Development Department (UDD) will start before the end of this year advertising the availability of newly-built homes for low-income Amman residents, says UDD Director Hisham Al-Zagha.

Homes in the Marka area project of the UDD's JD 17 million renewal scheme will first be handed over to buyers some time in the summer of 1984, Dr. Zagha told The Star in an interview. They will be distributed in groups of about 150 at two or three-month intervals.

The UDD this week was discussing with representatives of the World Bank the process of beneficiary selection and marketing for the products of the department's first project. Dr. Zagha said the process will start in about a month, with the UDD screening applicants and forwarding names to the Housing Bank. The World Bank has partly financed the UDD construction projects, while the Housing Bank will provide low-cost loans to approved purchasers of the homes.

Dr. Zagha said the basic criteria for beneficiaries of the scheme are that they be Jordanian citizens, with a monthly income between JD 80 and JD 160. Homes are for sale only to families or couples, and the beneficiaries should not own any other property in Amman. They must also have lived in Amman for at least three years, because the department does not want to encourage more population drift from rural areas to the city.

These requirements may be supplemented by other criteria at a later stage, Dr. Zagha said.

Marka is one of three new areas where the UDD is constructing new communities. The China Construction Engineering Corporation is responsible for all construction work there and at the second new area, in North Ruseifa, making for a total of 1,800 housing plots. Sixty per cent of these have homes built on them, while the rest are not built up but are connected to services.

The tender for the construction of homes at the Quweisemeh new area — the biggest construction job so far — will be awarded within two weeks, he said.

Work by local construction companies at three squatter areas is proceeding ahead of schedule. The provision of basic infrastructure roads, paths, sewerage and electricity — at Wadi Riam and Jabal Jofeh will be completed by the end of this year; but the process of improving the houses themselves will take one to two years. Some of these houses need extensive rebuilding, while others are being "legalised" by the provision of building licenses.

In the third squatter area, East Wihdat, work is proceeding on a different basis. Existing structures there are almost entirely built of metal sheets and are thus unsafe; so they are all being demolished. The land is distributed to families living in the area, as determined by a survey; while they are provided with designs suggesting how they may build their new homes. Loans are also available for the projects; and Dr. Zagha says that so far 80 families have got permits and started building.

East Wihdat is the only area where this "self-help" approach

to renewal is being adopted, because all the structures there have to be torn down.

New land grant

The UDD recently received 560 dunums of land in a new grant from the government, for the purpose of expanding the new areas project near the Ruseifa site. Dr. Zagha explained that this was needed because, while the original plan was to build 5,000 plots, this was invalidated when the scheme was redesigned. The minimum plot size was increased from 100 to 150 square metres, and paths and public areas also grew. After the change only 3,000 plots were left in the original areas.

Planning and design work has already started on the new site, which bought the total number of plots back up to the original figure. Full financing for the expansion is not yet available, however. The UDD has discussed the possibility of having this included in a second urban renewal project which will also include other squatter areas.

Prospective beneficiaries of the new areas will probably be people who are now living either in squatter areas that are not covered by the first scheme, he said. Otherwise they have found places in the upgraded areas but only on a temporary basis. The buyers will also come from the natural process of population expansion.

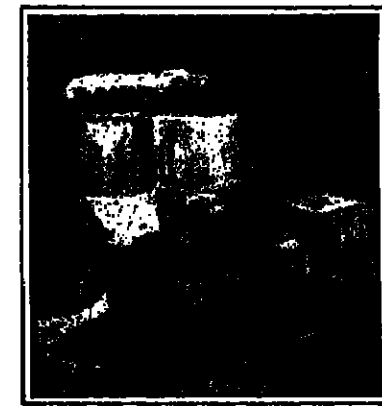
Among other squatter areas that may be included in the second UDD phase, he mentioned 'Abdoun, Nazif, Nuzha, Wadi Haddadeh, Hamlan (above the old airport) and Hay Al-Amir Hassan in Marka.

Helo holds solo exhibition

ADNAN Al-Helo, a Jordanian artist one of whose still-lives is reproduced to the right, opened his third solo art exhibition at the Holiday Inn on Sunday, 23 October, under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Basma.

The 30-year-old Helo, a member of the Jordan Artists Association, has been exhibiting his work since 1981, and held his first solo exhibition in 1982. His works have been widely admired and compared to those of top Jordanian artists despite the fact that he is handicapped from birth.

The exhibition continues until 1 November.



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Alitalia

Daoud Al-Issa passes away

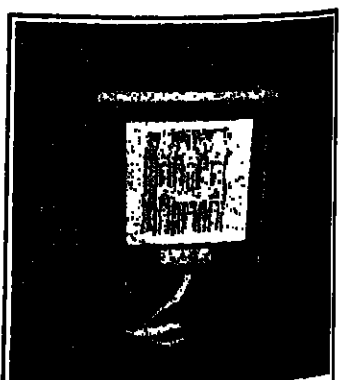
AMMAN (Star) — The well-known Jordanian journalist Daoud Al-Issa, former managing director of Ad-Dustour daily, passed away on Saturday, 22 October at the age of 80. The deceased, who was prominent in his field for 50 years, was born in 1903 and attended the American University in Beirut.

He started his career working on "Falastin" newspaper in Jaffa, which was published by his uncle Issa al-Issa. He later took charge of the semi-weekly newspaper and made it into a daily, the first one in Palestine, in the early 1920s.

Mrs. Issa managed the newspaper until 1948 when it moved to Jerusalem, and remained in the same post until 1967.

He published and was chief editor of the weekly "Al-Bilad" during the same period. He moved to Amman in 1967 to work as managing director of Ad-Dustour until 1977, when he retired and moved back to Jerusalem.

The deceased was a founding member of the Jordanian Journalists Association, and played a prominent role in the development of the advertising industry. He is survived by seven sons and eleven grandsons.



Appreciative plaque presented to the Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental

Inter-Conti receives gift from Ministry

AMMAN (Star) — On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities kindly presented a token of felicitations and goodwill to the hotel.

The gift was presented to Mr. A. Mueller-Gerbrand, the General Manager of Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental, by the Assistant Director General of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Mr. Rafiq Laham.

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Queen Noor presents one of the new policewomen with her diploma



Graduates display their physical training skills (Hassan Ibrahim photos)

Eleven graduates join women's police roster

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Last Thursday afternoon, 11 brand-new policewomen received their graduation diplomas from Her Majesty Queen Noor, herself in the uniform of a police officer. Eleven young women have now embarked on a new and difficult career, not quite accepted yet in our society, as they take on the varied tasks involved in maintaining law and order.

Half the population of the country is made up of women, so

we must have women to deal with them, understand them and their problems better," Brigadier Fahed Charaybeh of the General Security Department, told The Star. "Women in our society have a special position, particularly at this time, since they have started taking up all the duties of a citizen."

Asked if he thought women police officers could do as good a job as male police officers when dealing with men, he affirmed that they could. But, he added, there were too few of them, only about 120, to take up traffic duties, for example. He said they were also needed for desk jobs,

criminal investigations, criminal laboratory work etc.

After completing four months of rigorous training in police arts and sciences, the girls showed professional expertise when acting out the arrest of two criminals. Particularly interesting, specially, it seemed, to the Queen, was their efficient judo, karate and Tai Kwan-do performance, during which they split blocks of wood with their bare hands, tackled each other and demonstrated other skills required by police officers in apprehending criminals and suspects.

In her welcoming speech, Director of the Princess Basma Institute, Captain Husnieh Shaheen, said that this was an example of the modern social development of Jordan, with these girls now being able to render service to their fellow citizens.

Taking their oath of allegiance before the Queen with Chief of General Security General Mohammad Idriss, high-ranking security officers and proudly smiling and ululating family and friends looking on, the girls also received prizes for excellence in many fields. Several of them received brown, blue, green and

orange belts in the various aspects of judo and Tai Kwan-do, changing the old belts for the new in a very solemn ceremony.

The girls obviously take their duties very seriously. The Daoud Falahat is from Irbid, the winner of the physical fitness prize. She told The Star she was willing to do any job to which she is assigned, putting her preferences aside. Her only wish was to go back to her home town to serve there.

At the end of the ceremony, The Queen took tea with the graduates, other policewomen and officers, families and guests.

Dinner theatre debuts with hilarious comedy

Special to the Star

AMMAN — Professional dinner theatre will make its debut in Amman next week, when the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and British Airways present three performances of "Hay Fever", an uproarious comedy by the illustrious British playwright Noel Coward.

The Intercontinental is promising what producer Derek Nimmo calls a "hugely enjoyable evening" in the hotel's Ballroom, which has been transformed into a replica of a theatre in London's West End, with the play's stage set exactly reproduced. But "visiting our playhouse is even more pleasant than going to a conventional theatre," Mr. Nimmo says.

Guests will enjoy a complete evening's entertainment, all the way from cocktails in the foyer bar through candlelight four-course dinner and after-dinner drinks (Mr. Nimmo suggests champagne), on to the play's performance, itself — which guests can enjoy while remaining seated at the dinner table.

Some names among the small cast are better known than others, but all are said to be excellent. As one reviewer earlier wrote, "the charm of Patrick Cargill and the dazzling grace and beauty of Moira Lister deserve special mention." The play itself was once singled out by Coward as his favourite.

The plot, as briefly outlined in an Intercontinental Entertainment press release, promises high hilarity. The piece is a "comedy of bad manners" which starts with the arrival of four guests, invited independently by different members of the Bliss family, for a weekend at a country house near Maidenhead.

In a 1920s version of Albee's memorable parlour game "Get the Guests", the visitors are the alternately ignored, embraced, embarrassed, humiliated and ultimately abandoned to sink away by themselves during a blazing family row, a curtain device later echoed by the end of "Private Lives".

"Hay Fever" debuts on 8 November. A good time should be had by all.

From top to bottom: Sir Noel Coward, and cast members Susan Edmonstone, Ian McCurragh and Sorel Johnson

Cars for Sale

Two Toyota Corona Cars, air conditioned with the option of customs duty paid or not paid.

One car is a 1982 model with 25,000 km. The second is a 1981 model with 70,000 km.

Both cars are in very good condition.

There are other Mazda 1981 cars, various sizes available.

For inquiries please contact telephone 668503 or 669376.

Seminar takes a look at women in agriculture

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The role of women in the production of food has become increasingly important, as the "problem of food shortages and subsequent price increases is one of the most acute problems facing developing countries," says Dr. Kamel Thabet, Deputy Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, (FAO).

Dr. Thabet was speaking at the Inter-Country Experts' Meeting in the Near East Region on "Women in Food Production," a seminar organized by the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development and FAO. Minister of Social Development In'am Mufti said that in Jordan efforts have been directed towards developing the role of rural women by programmes aiming at increasing their participation in the agricultural sector and food production.

Reagan misjudges Mid East realities, US lecturer says

By Salim Al-Ma'ani
Special to the Star

AMMAN — The Reagan administration has exaggerated the usefulness of shows of force in Middle East politics, as is proved by events in Lebanon, says an Arab-American political scientist.

Dr. Farouq Sankari, of the University of Wisconsin, made that statement during an address this week to the World Affairs Council in Amman. In his analysis of the Reagan administration's Middle East policy, Dr. Sankari said that the United States' current pre-occupation with events in Lebanon probably served the interests of Israel first, and that the US had erred in not allowing due roles to Syria

and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

So long as the US gives unlimited support to Israel, and as long as the Arabs squander their resources in conflict among themselves, the region will be threatened with more disaster, terrorism and war, he said. But even if the US withdraws its support for Israel, it may now be too late to make any appreciable difference.

The main problem that has always confronted US policymakers is the need to reconcile four basic interests: The continued flow of oil from Arab countries; the desire to curb Soviet influence in the area; the need to keep the region stable, and the wish to maintain strong and friendly relations with all the area's states.

DLDNA tries to moderate book prices Libraries department pitches its tent in Jabal Luweibdeh

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — One of the most prominent features of the Children's Festival that is being held by the Department of Culture and Arts at Jabal Luweibdeh this week is a tent. The tent is notable for its contents — a collection of children's books comprising the Annual Children's Book Festival, organized by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA).

This year's book tent is the next step in a process that has already led to the opening of one new public library. It is also part of DLDNA's effort to do something about the exorbitant prices of books in Jordan.

Last year, similar festivals were held at the Birds Garden in Amman as well as in the southern village of Wadi Musa and in Al Arida, near Salt.

The open-sided bedouin-style tent contains shelves bearing a large selection of children's books in both Arabic and English. They range from picture books for pre-schoolers up to historical, religious and biographical books for pre-teens.

Although there is a selection of books written by Jordanian writers, the majority of them are either translated from foreign works or written by other Arab authors. A large table with chairs is provided for children to read at, as well as a television and video set to show various children's programmes.

Heritage of tents

Dr. Ahmad Sharkas, DLDNA's Director General, said the aim of such festivals is to encourage and educate children to choose and actually read their own books, as well as to provide parents and guardians with the opportunity to help their children select the proper reading material.

Dr. Sharkas told The Star that tents are used for these festivals because they relate to the Jordanian heritage, and are more appealing. That is why they work better than bookmobiles. "This does not mean that bookmobiles are less important. It is just that the social orientation and set-up should be considered when bringing new techniques to the people," he said.

Because tents are easily moved from one place to the other, they are quite economical, and the space they provide gives people the opportunity to browse through the books without the feeling that they are being watched or rushed.

DLDNA has also found that such tents are quite suitable for an introductory role in establishing permanent library services. The permanent public library in Wadi Musa is an example of its success.

Set up after last summer's book tent festival, the library at Wadi Musa now has three employees, suitable furniture and over 3,000 circulating volumes. All of these are sponsored on a cost and responsibility-sharing basis between the community members, represented by the municipality, the Friends of Libraries Association, and DLDNA. A small library has also been established in Al-Arida after a book festival was held there.

Dr. Sharkas said that before the department embarks on any such activity, it makes a social study of the community concerned so as to understand its basic cultural and educational needs. "But if we feel that the community is not ready to share both costs and responsibilities in one way or another, we refrain from opening any library or do other activities," he said. "People must become involved."

DLDNA also tries to recruit talented people to teach the children to help in its activities. There was a very good puppeteer at the Noor Summer Reading Tent, the first book festival to be held this summer. It was held in co-operation with the Housewives Association in Irbid and opened under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. "We try to call for the help of all institutions and individuals because in this period of development, we need the co-operation of all," Dr. Sharkas said.

Overcharging in bookstores

DLDNA usually co-operates with publishing houses, who can sell reading material at bookstands near the tent. To encourage

people to buy the books, the department watches out to make sure that the prices remain reasonable. According to Dr. Sharkas, prices range from 60-250 Jds. One bookstall had to close at an earlier festival because its books were overpriced, he said.

By getting an idea about book prices from these festivals, people should now be able to use their own judgment to tell whether or not they are being overcharged for books. "Through his discussions with publishers, he has found that local distributors sometimes make over 80 per cent profit out of selling a book. They would charge JD 1 for a book that originally costs one Egyptian guinea," he said. "Unfortunately, books are treated like any commercial goods here, although shipping costs no more than 15 per cent of the price" of other goods.

Through such activities, it is hoped that more people will pick up the reading habit. "One psychological aspect we try to play on is the fact that when one has been encouraged to buy a book, he or she will be bound to read parts of it, if not all."

Department orders a halt to Jerash Project digging

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Archaeological excavations in the ancient city of Jerash will be suspended at the end of the year due to lack of funds, The Star learned this week.

A Department of Antiquities spokesman said that archaeologists working in the internationally sponsored Jerash Project had been asked to prepare to suspend digging by 1984. During the coming year efforts will concentrate on consolidation of monuments at the Decapolis city.

The Jerash Project is the most intensive effort to date at retrieving information about the

large part of the city that still lies buried. It has involved the participation of archaeologists from Jordan, the United States, Australia, Poland, France, the UK and other countries.

The department has now found, however, that the cost of field excavations, including the purchase of equipment and labourers' salaries, is too high to continue for the time being. What funds are now available will be used mostly for the purchase of restoration equipment, the spokesman said.

Some small-scale digging work will continue alongside the consolidation projects during 1984, he said.

Municipality aims to hit new heights

Mayor Rawabdeh promises:

- Names for Streets • District Markets
- Public Lavatories • More Walkovers

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — By the end of January 1983 all the streets of Amman will have been numbered, and by the end of 1984 all of them will be named, says Abdul-Raouf Al-Rawabdeh, mayor of Amman.

Mr. Rawabdeh told The Star in an interview that the municipality will shortly launch new projects and services for the residents of Amman, including the erection of large local markets in every mountain (major district) in Amman to provide basic food-stuffs to inhabitants of those areas.

Six public toilets will be installed in various locations around the city, and street pavements will be reshaped and widened, and pedestrian walkovers will be installed. He said the project to erect toilets will be put out to tender within six months; but gave no specific dates for the other projects.

When asked why the municipality has not established a number of libraries, reading rooms and a central information bureau to guide citizens, visitors and tourists, Mr. Rawabdeh said this is the task of the Ministry of Tourism. Such utilities are "very badly needed," he said; and "we are fully prepared to co-operate with the ministry in this sphere, within our competence and funds."

Reading rooms?

The municipality has taken the preliminary steps to establish a



Abdul-Raouf Al-Rawabdeh

central library in the former building of the Jordanian Parliament at Jabal Amman, First Circle. This building will also include a museum of political life in Jordan.

More ambitious projects, however, will have to wait. The erection of bridges to link the city's disjointed districts, for instance, would be extremely expensive. "One cannot imagine that the cost of building a bridge to link First Circle (in Jabal Hussein) with Third Circle, Jabal Amman is estimated at JD 40 million." This compares to the municipality's entire annual budget totalling only JD 18 million.

One other needed facility, however — a central clock tower — will be provided when a new post office building is completed in Abdali district.

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Unique silver extraction plant under construction

Project to use old photo film, rubbish for its raw materials

By Kathy Kaklish
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A unique project at the Zarqa Free Zone is expected to provide a model for the use of the zone in international industrial and re-processing projects — and for Jordanian-foreign co-operation in such ventures. The project's products, comprising high-quality jewellery, silverware and silver plate made from reprocessed

waste, will reach the local market in the near future.

The \$3 million plant is now being erected at the Free Zone. It is 49 per cent owned by the Royal Corporation of Bombay in joint venture with Managing Partner Mr. Jamil Ramahi of Jordan, the majority stockholder. Mr. Joy Joseph, General Manager of the Royal Corporation, told The Star that the factory is expected to start producing in the coming month. It will be the first of its kind in the Middle East.

The silver to be extracted is mainly found in liquid form, in the silver nitrates used by photographers, x-ray clinics, film and television studios. More will come in solid form, for example in the silvery embroidery of discarded clothing.

The quality and quantity of the material to be extracted depends on the concentration of silver in the waste material provided, and

Mr. Joseph said that the quantity of raw material needed to keep the factory running is far more than what Jordan itself can provide. Additional raw material will be brought in from Europe as well as other Middle Eastern countries.

Lab analysis

As soon as the waste material reaches the factory, the laboratory takes over to check the degree of silver it contains. Accordingly the necessary level of dissolving chemicals is determined. Testing continues during the purification process, which will be done with machinery brought in from India.

The newly extracted raw silver will be put into the hands of craftsmen to make the jewellery and other articles. Before they go on the market, the laboratory re-checks their purity. The handmade products will contain 99.9 per cent silver.

The plant will also produce a small quantity of unworked silver ingots. Mr. Joseph declined to say what total production would be.

The Jordanian market will absorb around 15-20 per cent of the factory's expected production. The rest will be exported to Europe, which is expected to provide a good market.

The plant will have about 80 employees. Forty of them will come from India, including 15 scientists, craftsmen and technicians. These will run the factory in its initial stages while training the local staff. The Jordanians will be able to take over the operations in two to three years, and finally will carry on alone when the Indian company moves out after 10 years.

Mr. Joseph said that his company had found Jordan to be the most suitable country in the Middle East to establish such a project because of the encouragement Jordan gives for industry and trade as well as providing favourable facilities through its Free Zone. They hope to set up a similar project in Saudi Arabia in the near future.

Jordan Securities, European bank dispute letter of credit

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Said Nabulsi is taking a hand in efforts to resolve a dispute between a Jordanian merchant bank and a foreign bank over a recent large letter of credit (LC).

The differences concern the terms of a \$15 million LC opened by the Jordan Securities Corporation (JSC) to pay for the import of trucks made by the Italian Fiat company. JSC is pursuing the case with the European Arab Bank in London and with the importers, sources said.

Continued on page 7

INVITATION TO BUSINESSMEN IN THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia invites you to attend the Indonesian Trade Promotion Fair, at the Regency Palace Hotel, Amman, on Oct. 24, 1983 to Oct. 28, 1983 from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. Team of commercial representatives of Indonesian Trade establishments and companies shall be present to answer your enquiries.

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AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET REPORT

Volume turns up

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

A HUGE jump in trading took place this week, mainly due to a huge deal involving Islamic Bank stock in the middle of the week. It brought the total value of stock changing hands to a level 89.4 per cent higher than last week.

The Islamic Bank deal, amounting to JD 822,000, recalled similar deals involving that Bank's shares about the same time last year, and suggests that the market will witness similar activity during the coming weeks.

In general share prices continued to decrease slightly, thus increasing activity in the market, now that the year 1983 is drawing to an end.

More than 970,000 shares were handled, at a market value of JD 2.57 million, divided among 1,270 contracts. The daily handling average came to about JD 515,000 but due to the Islamic Bank deal, deviation around this average came to 58.1 per cent, or 11.5 per cent of total handling.

Banks

The banks sector had 73.1 per cent of the total market, an increase of 7.4 points compared to last week. Four out of 17 banks had 84.8 per cent of the sector or 61.9 per cent of total. The Islamic Bank had 46.1 per cent of sector or 33.7 per cent of total. The Jordan Gulf Bank 29.1/21.2 per cent. The Arab Bank 5.5/4.0 per cent and Jordan Securities Corp 4.1/3.0 per cent.

Industry

Industrials accounted for 19.3 per cent of the market, down 6.8 points on last week. Five out of 30 industrial companies had 69.7 per cent of the sector or 13.5 per cent of total. Jordanian Industrial Investments had 26.7 per cent of sector or 5.2 per cent of total. Jordan Petroleum Refineries 14.6/2.8 per cent. National Industries 12.6/2.4 per cent. Arab Chemical Detergents 9.7/1.9 per cent, and Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing 6.1/1.2 per cent.

Services

The services sector had 4.8 per cent of the total — up 1.2 points on last week. Two out of nine companies had 49.7 per cent of the sector or 2.4 per cent of the market total. National General Investments had 33 per cent of sector (1.6 per cent of total), and International Contracting and Investments 16.7/0.8 per cent.

Insurance

The insurance sector had 2.8 per cent of the market, a decrease of 1.8 points compared to last week. Two out of nine insurance companies had 70.9 per cent of dealing in the sector or 5 per cent of the total. General Insurance with 54.6 per cent of sector (1.5 per cent of total), and Jordan-French Insurance (16.3/0.5 per cent).

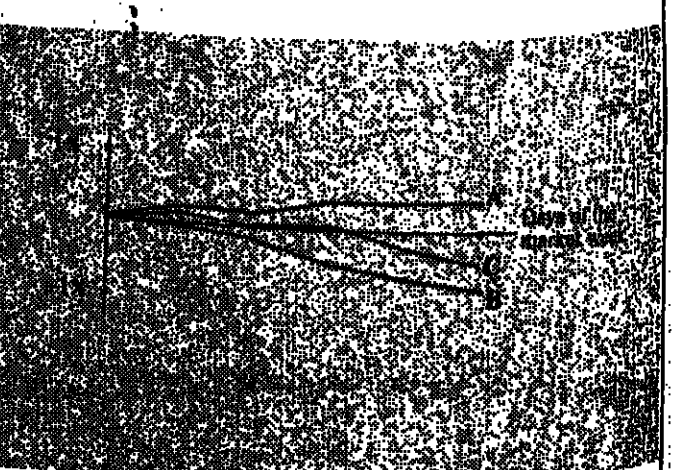
The shares of 65 companies were handled during the week. Price declines outnumbered increases, 38-12. Prominent gains included Arab Chemical Detergents, closing at JD 4,300 up from JD 3,910; and Petra Insurance at JD 1,650, up from JD 1,600.

Among declines were: Jordanian Printing and Folding, closing at JD 7,750 down from JD 8,500; Al-Quds Insurance at JD 2,300 down from JD 2,490; Middle East Hotel at JD 0,560 down from JD 0,590; Rafia Plastic Bags at JD 0,950 down from JD 1,000. Fifteen companies had no change in their share prices.

The price index calculated by The Star at closing time came to 349; a decrease of 1.24 points or 0.4 per cent from last week.

In the over-the-counter market about 335,000 shares were handled, at a market value of JD 260,000.

The weekly record



A. Companies showing an increase in stock prices
B. Companies with a price decrease
C. The mean record figure

Jordan bank system compares favourably with the Saudi giants

By Robert Poullot
Star Economy Analyst

JORDAN AND Saudi Arabia may not have much in common as far as the economy is concerned. But though Jordan has no oil to sell abroad, it has allocated its financial resources much more efficiently than the neighbouring Saudi Kingdom.

Recent figures disclosed by the International Monetary Fund are quite revealing.

Saudi Arabia's gross domestic product (GDP), or the total worth of all goods and services produced inside the kingdom, is 42 times greater than that of Jordan. Yet, the total money stock held by Saudis stood at \$20,363 per citizen as opposed to \$1,348 in Jordan.

The earnings gap is thus tiny compared to the difference in GDP — the Saudi per capita figure being only 15 times greater than Jordan.

But what makes the whole difference is how the Kingdom of Jordan has successfully recycled the scarce money deposits it has into productive loans.

In development-hungry Jordan, banks have very limited money resources to tap. Total bank money available by last autumn was a mere \$3.4 billion as against \$201 billion in Saudi Arabia.

However, all that money was lent back mostly to the private sector to build factories and apartment houses, open shops and clinics and finance trade inventory or farming operations. Moreover, banks had to reach beyond their deposits and borrow abroad to meet a burgeoning loan demand, despite a second year of recession.

By contrast, Saudi banks lent back to the private sector on average only a fourth of their deposits. Put differently, recycling was very slow and inefficient — as if the Saudi deposits base, once adjusted for the difference in population, was a mere \$17 billion. That is barely more than five times the "working deposit base" of all Jordanian financial institutions.

Two pillar banks

The best illustration of how the Saudi banking system works comes from the two major institutions dominating the kingdom's market. Those are the National Commercial Bank (NCB), with assets of just under \$15 billion last year (excluding all contra accounts), and the Riyad Bank which boasted assets worth \$8 billion this spring. Together, they control over two-thirds of Saudi Arabia's commercial and state-owned institutions' assets and handle nearly seven times as much bank money as all of Jordan.

Last year, those two banks hardly lent more than half their deposits back to the private sector. In the case of the giant NCB, the ratio was even lower: 43 per cent.

Sure enough, several Jordanian banks are in the same category. The Jordan National Bank, for one, had even a lower performance in Jordan and Lebanon, with 46.5 per cent.

But there are two major differences here. In the first case, NCB and Riyad lent as much money to other banks abroad (mainly in Bahrain and London) as they made advances to the private sector.

With the addition of cash and deposits made with the monetary agencies, about half of their assets were liquid, triggering very low earnings.

In the case of the Jordan National Bank, the same ratio was less than 20 per cent. Most of the gap was filled in Jordan by treasury bills bought from the government, bonds for major state-owned corporations and equity in over 23 companies and financial institutions.

The other major difference lies with the overall capital and money markets. Whereas banks are still the only major source of funds in Saudi Arabia, the frantic diversification and expansion of financial techniques in Jordan has helped to widen ways of raising money outside the strict banking circles. In this regard, the profile of the two Saudi pillar banks is quite significant.

A dwarf behind the giant

Despite its huge assets by Arab standards, the National Commercial Bank remains somewhat of a dwarf. First, it is not even a company. It was established in 1938 as an unlimited liability partnership and has remained as such until today. This means that the founding partners — Salim Ahmad Bin Mahfouz (\$1.5 per cent), Saleh Bin Mousa Kaaki and Abdullah Bin Mousa Kaaki (22.5 per cent) and Abdul Aziz Mohammad Kaaki (26 per cent) — would be fully liable for all outstanding debts if the bank went bankrupt.

The prospect of such failure is obviously very remote. But the risk, though small, is always there.

And that explains why the bank's capital is so small: a mere \$9 million. Thus, the partners had to retain a major part of the bank's profits to increase their reserves. Yet, even today, NCB can't lend more than \$160 million to any single customer according to the Saudi monetary regulations. By contrast, the Riyad Bank can lend up to \$190 million thanks to a larger capital and reserve base.

Although the NCB founding partners are eager to change the status of the bank into a private company, there is keen resistance on the part of the Saudi authorities, who would prefer a public company with shareholders scattered throughout the kingdom.

Another key weakness of NCB lies with its excessive liquidities. Its small capital and reserve base forced the bank to keep an extravagant sum of \$1.5 billion interest-free with the monetary authorities.

For Riyad Bank, the problem is quite different. Although it developed in a quite spectacular fashion its treasury and money market activities since 1980, the bank still remains too liquid for the kingdom. Unlike the NCB, which has branches and representative offices in at least eight countries, Riyad depends strictly on its Bahrain affiliate, the Gulf Riyad Bank, to redeploy its liquid funds abroad. Having concentrated its activities on the domestic market, Riyad hit a one way street: it deposits a huge chunk of money with the other banks but it attracts very little from its competitors. For each \$100 placed on the institutional market, it got in exchange only \$7 from the inter-bank field of operations compared to nearly \$30 for the NCB.

\$15 million LC payment contested

Continued from page 6

Difficulties between the two banks apparently arose due to the long time-lag which passed before the credit instrument was being arranged. At the time the deal was initiated, the importer reportedly intended to use the trucks for operations on the then-lucrative Aqaba-Baghdad route. But when the trucks arrived, business on that route was much slower and the venture was not seen to be profitable. The trucks were then sold at a loss, and JSC did not receive the full \$15 million from its client.

European Arab Bank, meanwhile, paid the full amount to the exporter. In Europe, JSC did not recognize its liability for the sum, and there arose certain

differences on the technicalities, conditions and specifications of the documents of the LC, and whether it is operative or not, because certain conditions were not fulfilled," a JSC official said.

The case became the subject of widespread discussion in the banking community because of rumours concerning the way the procedures were initiated. But high JSC officials told The Star that while Mr. Mohammad Said Hammami, then the firm's General Manager, exceeded his authority in initiating the LC, there was no question of fraud or serious impropriety.

JSC Chairman Zuhair Khouri made the following statement: "It's a purely commercial trans-

action. An LC was opened by JSC and advised and confirmed by European Arab Bank. The goods arrived and were not cleared by the importer. They were sold, and the small difference is now being contested between the two banks and the importer.

"The (Central Bank) Governor, Dr. Nabulsi, is trying his best to solve the matter in a peaceful manner, as he is always keen on supporting Arab financial institutions inside and outside the country, and is very sure that any technical or professional differences between two institutions will not have a bad impact on their reputation." Mr. Hammami, who has since resigned from his position with JSC, declined to comment.



Taiwanese trade exhibition grosses \$400,000

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A two-day Taiwanese trade exhibition held this week marked a considerable advance over earlier years, says the exhibition's Director, Mr. Allen Chieu. Orders totalled \$400,000 at the event, which ended last Saturday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

"In view of this progress we have decided to establish a representative office in Amman to undertake and promote our business," Mr. Chieu said.

Mr. Chieu represents the Taiwan Trade Group, which holds three exhibitions every year in Middle Eastern countries, including Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and Kuwait.

"We usually display garments, wall clocks, furniture (wooden and brass), motorcycles, automotive parts and accessories, building materials and luggage," he said. "We are grateful for the good facilities

and treatment we particularly receive in Jordan with regard to smooth sale, including the acquisition of an easy entry visa."

The major objective of the Taiwan Trade Group is to expand international trade with friendly peoples, "and in the meantime to strengthen our national economy."

For the convenience of foreign buyers there is the International Traders Exhibition Centre, a product display room in Taiwan, in which visiting businessmen can see and examine a large variety of items within the limited time available to them. They also can obtain on the spot information about the products to be purchased.

"The centre, moreover, offers foreign businessmen, visiting Taiwan, computer, management, marketing and other facilities, as required, to provide the right product and information and reach the right firm or person at the right time."

Contracts & Contacts

Airport offers shop space

THE CIVIL Aviation Directorate is offering by tender concession space for shops at the new Queen Alia International Airport. The arcade in the overpass between the northern and southern terminals will include a boutique, a flower shop, packaged sweets and confectioner's shops, a jewellery store, bookshop, recorded music store, oriental souvenir and traditional clothing shops.

Tender documents are available from the DCA in Marka for JD 15; the closing date for bids is 3 November.

English textbook publishers

THE EDUCATION Ministry seeks publishers to help write and produce textbooks for the teaching of English in elementary and preparatory classes. Publishers will be required to provide two co-authors and supply books to the ministry at a 25 per cent discount. Details from the ministry, at P.O. Box 1930, Amman.

Building contractors for army

THE ROYAL Engineering Corps invites tenders from construction contractors in the first and second classes for erection of a building of unspecified size. Details from the corps for JD 20. Bids are due by 7 November.

Consulting engineer services

THE ORPHANS Fund Foundation seeks consultant offices to prepare designs, specifications and quantities for a contract to build offices on top of its building in Umm Uthman, Jabal Amman. Details from the foundation's engineering department. Bids due by 13 November.

Supply tenders

ALIA, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, is opening several supply tenders early next week. Bids for the supply of sound insulating dividers are due in on Saturday, 29 October. Tenders no. 47 and 50 — for tailor's shop equipment and the printing of empty containers — are due on Monday, 31 October. Details from Alia's tenders committee cost JD 30 for the first contract, JD 2 for no. 50 and are free for no. 47.

UNIVERSITY EQUIPMENT: Tender number 97 for educational equipment, 98 for laboratory equipment and 99 for furniture for the Water Research Centre at the University of Jordan. Details for JD 5 each from the university. Closing date 21 November for no. 97; 28 November for nos. 98 & 99.

FURNITURE for buildings of the Royal Artillery Corps. Details from the corps free of charge. Closing date 2 November.

WATER PUMPS (electrical) and accessories for the Water Supply Corporation. Details from the corporation's tenders committee for JD 10. Closing date 2 November.

SPARE PARTS for signalling equipment. Details available to licensed suppliers for JD 5. Closing date 29 November.

TENDERS no. 190 for supply of chemicals, and 192 for wooden furniture, for the Department of Supply. Details for JD 3 (no. 190) and JD 5 (no. 192) from the department in Jabal Amman. Closing date 2 November for 190; 29 October for 192.

IN BRIEF

UK loan to Iraq

LONDON — Britain is to extend a \$375 million credit to Iraq for the purchase of British capital goods and machinery. The credit agreement was signed by Iraqi Trade Minister Hassan Ali and his British counterpart, Paul Channon. Ali was in London as a member of a top-level mission headed by Taha Yassin Ramadan, First Deputy Prime Minister, and including Oil Minister Qasim Taji Al-Oraibi.

China asks for help

LONDON — China has called on Britain to help with the development of its offshore oil industry. Britain's Energy Secretary, Peter Walker, has received an invitation from the Chinese government to discuss ways in which the two countries could work closely on a range of major energy developments. Mr. Walker said Britain's experience and expertise in the North Sea oilfields could be applied to the Chinese requirements.

Honduras feels the squeeze as markets shrink

By Monte Hayes

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Central America's most impoverished country, until now largely spared the violence plaguing its neighbours, is nevertheless caught in a vortex of political and economic forces beyond its control.

Financial analysts say the nation's economy has taken a

nositive as a result of threats of regional war with Nicaragua and concern that leftist insurgencies in El Salvador and Guatemala could spread to Honduras.

An estimated \$600 million in capital has been taken from the country since 1979 by people frightened by political violence in neighbouring countries. To stop the flow, the government has imposed exchange controls and restricted the number of dollars available to importers.

Investor fear, among both Hondurans and foreigners, remains strong, businessmen and diplomats say. US banks, which formerly lent as much as \$200 million a year to Honduras, have virtually halted loans.

"As long as we have that cancer on our southern border, no one is going to invest in this country," said Fernando Lardizabal, President of the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise, referring to the leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Relations between Honduras and Nicaragua have been tense since the Sandinistas overthrew rightist strongman Anastasio Somoza in July 1979. Nicaragua accuses Honduras of harbouring US-trained anti-Sandinista rebels and warns there will be war unless cross-border attacks stop.

Honduras is bordered on the southwest by El Salvador and on the northwest by Guatemala. The country's problems also stem in part from its dependence on bananas, coffee and other raw materials for its export earnings. In 1982 the world market slumped for most of its products, exports dropped 12.4 per cent to \$791 million and the economy contracted by 1.1 per cent.

The per capita gross national product is \$563, second lowest in the Western Hemisphere after Haiti.

Despite its chronic poverty, for the most part Honduras has escaped the terrorism prevalent in other Central American countries.

"It's a peaceful country where there is no real insurgency movement," said a US diplomat who asked not to be identified. "There is no conspicuous wealthy class like in Mexico nor an oligarchy like in El Salvador. At one time everyone in Honduras was poor and people still remember their roots."

There have been scattered terrorist acts since President Roberto Suazo Cordova's election in November 1981 restored civilian government, but nothing comparable to the political violence in neighbouring countries. Military men ruled during 17 of the previous 19 years.

2,600 closings

Business leaders say the recession brought on by low export prices and capital flight has forced the closing of 2,600 enterprises, most of them small, since the beginning of 1982. The country's largest textile manufacturer, with 1,000 workers, recently asked permission to suspend operations because of declining demand and a shortage of dollars to import cotton.

The Labour Ministry estimates that at least 660,000 members of the nation's work force of 1.1 million are unemployed or underemployed. The nation has a population of 4 million.

The government calculates inflation at 10 per cent, but Lardizabal's business group claims the figure is closer to 40 per cent. Suazo Cordova has pared an extensive price control system to a few essential items to encourage production and reduce imports.

The country's minimum wage, ranging from \$2 a day in rural areas to \$3.30 a day for industrial workers, falls far short of meeting the high cost of living.

Beef costs \$2 a pound, milk 43 cents a litre and bread rolls five cents each. Corn meal, used in making tortillas, costs 20 cents a pound. Eggs sell for eight cents each. Beans and rice, both staples, cost 40 to 45 cents a pound.

The nation's economic woes are visible in the streets of the capital and the mountainous countryside, where many peasants are limited to a daily diet of tortillas and a few beans.

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Did Israel plan the attack on the MNF? America searches for possible suspects

By Abdulsalam Massarweh
Star Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Of all the factions that the United States government is trying to implicate in the attack on the US and French soldiers in the multinational forces in Lebanon, no one dared, so far, to mention the name of Israel and its possible involvement in the cowardice act which snuffed the life of more than 200 soldiers on 23 October.

The accusations voiced over CBS and ABC Television by Mr. Casper Weinberger, secretary of defence, were directed toward Iran, which, according to circumstantial evidence, might have perpetrated the crime directed against the whole concept of the multinational forces in Lebanon, and not against the US Marines only.

The facts point out to different directions, or the possibility of the existence of a conspiracy between Israeli occupying authorities and extremists in the Phalangist party. The same elements which bombed the US embassy and assassinated Lebanese President Bashir Gemayel. These elements are posing a great concern for the US intelligence which hurried to point out just recently that there is the fear of a coup d'etat in Lebanon.

Circumstantial evidence

There was also enough "circumstantial evidence" that the US deliberately supplied the Lebanese army with large quantities of weapons since the current ceasefire was achieved. Until Friday, 21 October, the New York Times reported that the US Defence Department provided more weapons more than any one can think of, something which made Syria upset, with justification, to the point that Syria's allies in Lebanon, Mr. Walid Junblatt and his followers, accelerated the tension following the arms shipment.

Reliable Arab sources in Washington said that Syria's action was justified in escalating the tension which resulted in the death of two Marines in Beirut. These acts that increased the suspicion of the indigenous factions in Lebanon who were expecting that the national reconciliation talks will put them on the map of Lebanon.

But one should not draw the conclusion that these elements, although they were angry could have planned the attacks on the multinational force. According to informed circles in Washington both Mr. Pierre Gemayel and Mr. Camille Chamoun Maronite leaders have voiced their objection to any reconciliation among the factions in Lebanon. This position was well-known to the US government and it caused a lot of concern and agony to many Middle East officials in the State Department.

US officials, according to Middle East Policy Survey newsletter, knew that the talks in Geneva, could produce an arrangement for a new national government in Lebanon paving the way for elections that would reflect the changed demographics. However, it is clear to most observers that Christian participants in the talks, notably Camille Chamoun and Pierre Gemayel will never acquiesce in a process that leads to a change in government power sharing arrangement. In fact, it was learned that the Christians will even oppose any attempts to wean them away from the national security portfolio they now maintain in the Lebanese cabinet.

In his marathon speech, the King covered a wide range of Arab, Iranian and international disputes. He said that Saudi Arabia was exerting itself to bring the 38-month-old Iraq-Iran war to an end, alluding to mediation efforts by Islamic and non-aligned nations between the warring sides.

"This war is a loss to Islam and Muslims and Arabs, and we



The debris of the four storey building which until last Sunday served as the Marine Command Centre

The Middle East Policy Survey "emphasized that" one long-time Lebanese observer flatly predicts that the Christians will turn on the US before relinquishing any of their power in Lebanon. With this in mind and the fact that Israel has invested more than \$40 million in "the new northern border" — the Awali river, one should not be surprised then to see the unholy alliance between the Israelis and the Phalangites bear some fruits in the attack of the Multinational Forces.

Scapegoats

But the accusations against Iran and Syria stem from the fact that the United States government, who is a hostage of its impotence in Lebanon, is looking for scapegoats who come in the name of Iran and fundamentalist Shi'ites.

There is no intention here to defend Syria's stubbornness and lack of progress in the Lebanese quagmire, but the US government would not question the Israelis who have the upper hand in electing the next president of the US.

If Washington frees itself from the "love for Israel, right or wrong" complex, and uses its resources more efficiently it will definitely find that the perpetrators of the crime against the Marines and the French soldiers were no other people than its own strategic ally in the Middle East, Israel, supported by the Phalangites who want to dominate Lebanon.

Fahd deplores Beirut blasts

JIDDA (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has condemned an act of futility the two Beirut blasts that killed scores of US Marines and French peacekeeping troops, expressing hopes the tragedy will not adversely affect the projected national reconciliation conference between the bickering Lebanese factions. "These are painful incidents," said the King in an address to students and staff of the King Abdul-Aziz University Monday night. The King said the Beirut tragedy was so painful that French President Francois Mitterrand flew to Lebanon on Monday, while US President Reagan huddled with his aides to discuss the situation.

Many of the Arab ambassadors to Washington, mainly the Saudi and Syrian, have denounced the blasts as an act of destruction capable of complicating everything, said the King. "But we have faith in God that things will return to normal among the Lebanese (factions)."

In his marathon speech, the King covered a wide range of Arab, Iranian and international disputes. He said that Saudi Arabia was exerting itself to bring the 38-month-old Iraq-Iran war to an end, alluding to mediation efforts by Islamic and non-aligned nations between the warring sides.

"This war is a loss to Islam and Muslims and Arabs, and we

MIDDLE EAST IN BRIEF

Ministers to meet on Lebanon

PARIS — The foreign ministers of the four countries involved in the multinational peacekeeping force (MNF) in Lebanon will probably meet in Paris on Thursday, sources at the French Foreign Ministry said. US Secretary of State George Shultz announced that he would go to Europe this week for discussions following the devastating bomb attacks against American and French forces over the weekend in Beirut that killed more than 200.

Soviets bomb Afghan town

ISLAMABAD — Several hundred people were killed and half of all houses destroyed last week when Soviet forces bombarded the town of Istalef, north of Kabul, Western diplomatic sources here said Tuesday. "The lowest estimates of civilian casualties are in the several hundreds although many bodies may still lie in the rubble," said the report, quoting travellers reaching the Afghan capital. Soviet air and ground attacks against Istalef, a town of about 2,000 - 2,500 people, began in mid-October. In apparent reprisal for Soviet losses during counter-insurgency operations, said the report.

Palestinian exhibition raided

TEL AVIV — Israeli security forces confiscated items at a Palestinian exhibition in Bethlehem University in the occupied West Bank, the military command said. A spokesman said the materials were being examined for inflammatory anti-Israel content. A University statement protested the Israeli action and said posters, music cassettes and a Palestinian flag were among the confiscated exhibits.

Egypt seeks to end Gulf war

KUWAIT — The Egyptian Prime Minister Fuad Mubarek has been quoted as saying that Egypt is trying to talk the US into seeking an end to the Iraq-Iran war through peaceful means. Mubarek told the independent newspaper Al-Anba that Washington can play a role through some other power, in view of its strained relations with Iran, to end the war. "I do not conceal Egypt's pro-Iraq bias," the paper quoted him as saying. "Egypt has been supplying Iraq with arms. But we also are for an immediate halt to the hostilities." He said that Iraq's acquisition of five super Etendard fighter-bomber planes from France should not be used in the war against Iran, because "using such planes will not end the war" he added.

Lebanon's peace conference

BERN — The long-awaited Lebanese national reconciliation conference will open on 31 October at a Geneva hotel, according to the Swiss foreign ministry. Spokeswoman Maria Luisa Caroli said the date for the meeting between Lebanon's rival political factions had been set in coordination with the authorities in Lebanon. Accommodation problems had barred an earlier opening as Geneva is the venue of a world telecommunications exhibition next week.

Israelis protest corruption

AMMAN — About five hundred oriental Jews from poor neighbourhoods in Jerusalem Tuesday demonstrated against the spread of bribery and corruption in Israeli government offices. The "Jerusalem Post" reported that the demonstrators headed towards the Knesset. The paper quoted one demonstrator as saying that funds spent on settlements should be used to raise the standard of living of the poor.

Sudan-Libya relations

KHARTOUM — Sudan was reported Wednesday to have expressed readiness to mend fences with neighbouring Libya, Sudan's arch-enemy for more than a decade. The government-owned newspaper Al-Ayam quoted Foreign Minister Mohamed Mitrghani Mubarak as saying: "As an advocate of Arab solidarity, Sudan has no condition for restoring relations with Libya if it halts its conspiracies and (closes) training camps aimed at fomenting trouble in Sudan. The newspaper said Mubarak spoke after conferring with President Gaafar Nimeiri on Tuesday. Sudan and Libya have been feuding since the early seventies, when Nimeiri rejected a bid by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi unity between the two countries.

Arabs are anxious about Clark's departure

By Patrick Seale

LONDON (ONS) — A power struggle in Washington over Middle East policy between Secretary of State George Shultz and White House National Security Adviser William Clark may have been resolved with Clark's departure to the Department of the Interior.

Shultz is now expected to regain the control of Middle East policy which Clark wrested from him over the last three months. This change at the top is viewed with dismay in many Arab capitals where Clark and his deputy on the ground, Robert McFarlane — who has taken over from Clark — were seen to have injected a measure of realism into American policy, particularly over Lebanon.

The conflict between Shultz and Clark centres on Syria. Clark favours expanding the dialogue with Syria — a dialogue McFarlane began in his efforts to secure a ceasefire in Lebanon and start national reconciliation — while Shultz to this day regards Syria as a Soviet-inspired spoiler. Any concessions to it would play into Moscow's hands.

According to Washington sources, Clark argues that Syria is an essential actor not only in the Lebanese crisis but in the wider search for an Arab-Israeli settlement. Shultz, in contrast, believes Syria must be kept at arm's length. The Israel-Lebanon accord of 17 May which he sponsored deliberately excludes Syria.

For Shultz, his accord is still the way to get foreign forces out of Lebanon. But for



Shultz — back in the Middle East saddle

most observers, and the Clark camp, it is now a piece of diplomatic junk.

Arab concern is that America, with Clark gone, will continue to duck the central problems of the Middle East — not only Lebanon, but the West Bank and the Gulf — to focus instead on side issues.

As far as Lebanon is concerned, this fear was expressed last week by President



Clark: He injected a measure of realism into American policy

Gemayel when he said that the National Reconciliation Conference, called on American urging, was no more than 'a camouflage, a distraction, compared to the fundamental problem' of getting Israel and Syria out of his country.

But there is no sign of fresh American thinking on this issue. With Shultz back in the Middle East saddle, the chances are remote that he will scrap the 17 May accord and recognise that, far from getting foreign troops out, it guarantees they will stay.

Arab observers believe that failure to tackle the foreign troops issue must even-

tually torpedo national reconciliation — which must remain an unreal exercise as long as 75 per cent of the country is under foreign occupation.

On the Palestine problem, European diplomats say that the central aim must be to keep open the door on the future of the West Bank until after the 1984 American presidential election. This would mean persuading the Israeli government to freeze, or at least to slow down, the building of Jewish settlements.

Yet when Israel's new Premier, Yitzhak Shamir, declared on taking office that settlement building was a 'sacred work', Washington did not respond. This seeming American indifference to what is widely recognized as the biggest obstacle to Arab-Israeli peace comes at a time of unprecedented Israeli dependence on American aid.

With Israel floundering in economic crisis, the United States will have to come to the rescue — an opportunity to steer Israel towards more conciliatory and less confrontational Palestinian policies. But there is no sign that this chance will be seized.

As a senior European diplomat commented: 'All the levers over Israeli policy are falling into America's hands but America shows no inclination to grasp them.' As for the crisis in the Gulf, newly heightened by the Super-Elephant affair, European diplomats describe the American response as 'insensitive'. This has been to dispatch powerful naval forces to the approaches to the Gulf and to issue a strong warning to Iran not to interfere with navigation in the Strait of Hormuz.

This tough action and tough talk come just at the time when other countries are combining in the most determined bid in three years to end the Gulf war — or at least defuse the crisis.

PLO officials make moves to reconcile Arafat, Assad

KUWAIT (AP) — A rapprochement meeting between Syrian President Hafez Assad and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat has become feasible after the latest round of Arab contacts initiated by PLO officials.

The independent newspaper Al-Qabas said that Assad conferred in Damascus last week with Khaled Al-Hassan, chairman of the Palestinian Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee.

The meeting was held in Damascus, in a bid to eliminate differences between the Syrian leadership and Arafat's Fateh organization.

PLO sources here said that Saudi Arabian King Fahd was personally exerting himself for a Fateh-Syria reconciliation. Al-Qabas quoted Arafat's adviser Hani Al-Hassan, currently in Amman for talks with Jordanian officials, as saying that an Assad-Arafat meeting was imminent. The paper also quoted Al-Hassan as calling for an Eastern Front — of Syria, Jordan and the PLO — to confront Israeli threats.

In an interview with Al-Qabas in Tripoli, Lebanon which appeared to have been conducted well ahead of Khaled Al-Hassan's meeting with Assad, Mr. Arafat accused the Syrians of acting on behalf of America to evict the Palestinians from Northern Lebanon and also preparing for a massacre of Palestinians. He claimed that Syria was trying to create a substitute leadership for the PLO. 'I say that we, Palestinians are not easy to break', Arafat told the paper.

Arafat told Al-Qabas that Saudi Arabia, Algeria, the Soviet Union and former Lebanese Premier Rashid Karami were putting enormous pressure on Damascus to stop an imminent military operation by the Syrians against the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Despite all threats by US and Israeli leaders, 'I will go on with my struggle to

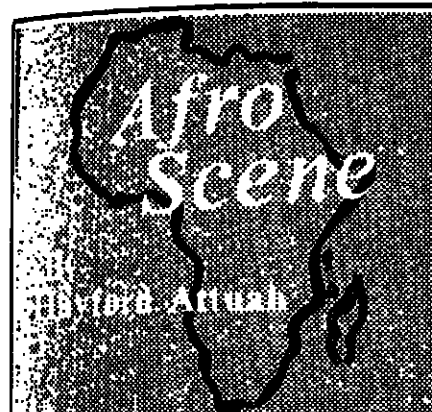
retake Jerusalem,' the paper quoted Arafat as saying. 'We will delve through the dark tunnel. But in the midst of darkness I can see the luminous features of Jerusalem.'

"Despite all threats by US and Israeli leaders, I will go on with my struggle to retake Jerusalem... we will delve through the dark tunnel. But in the midst of darkness I can see the luminous features of Jerusalem."

He said that Israel was expected to mount a naval operation against PLO forces in Northern Lebanon in response to the heroic commando operations against the (Israeli) enemy in Southern Lebanon by the joint (Palestinian-Lebanese) nationalist forces.

Arafat revealed that in recent weeks the Israelis attacked Palestinian elements at undisclosed locations near the Lebanese coast, where the (Israeli) enemy captured three boats and took 39 Palestinian officers prisoner. He accused the Lebanese Communist Party and other unidentified communist parties elsewhere in the Arab world of complicity in the Syrian conspiracy against Fateh.

Asked for comment on speculation that Khaled Al-Fahoum might replace him as PLO chairman, Arafat said: 'I am deeply democratic, and Al-Fahoum may replace me if he were elected by the Palestinian National Council (PNC). The PNC is the PLO's parliament in exile, and Al-Fahoum is its speaker.'



Independence for Namibia

ONE OF the most critical issues on the African continent today is the question of Namibia's independence. This territory originally known as South West Africa is administered by apartheid South Africa.

The case of Namibia has been trumpeted several times at the UN General Assembly and the Security Council, but they don't seem to arrive at any solution. The South African government is itself a centre of controversy — it is a minority white government which discriminates against the majority black.

For the past two decades the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO) led by Mr. Sam Nujoma has embarked on a war of independence against the South African government. SWAPO is recognised by the United Nations as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people and so is Nujoma as its recognized leader.

Opposed to SWAPO inside Namibia is the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) a multi-racial political party sponsored by South Africa. This party draws its membership mostly from the 90,000 whites living in Namibia. SWAPO on the other hand, enjoys the support of the over one million blacks in the territory.

The negotiations for Namibia's independence reached some hopeful stages two years ago when the UN scheduled elections in the territory. The elections were to be held on condition that a ceasefire was achieved between the SWAPO and the South African forces. This was however never to be.

What prevented the holding of the elections is what has become known as the 'linkage issue'. South Africa has linked the ceasefire and the subsequent elections in Namibia with the withdrawal of the over 20,000 Cuban troops in Angola. South Africa says it will not give any concessions unless the Cubans leave Angola. This demand is unreasonable for many reasons. Angola is an independent sovereign state. It has nothing to do with what happens in Namibia. Secondly, Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos has his reasons for keeping the Cubans even at a high expense. He fears the anti government activities of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) led by Dr. Jonas Savimbi whose party lost the elections on the eve of Angola's independence in 1975.

UNITA is backed by South Africa and it is seeking to overthrow the Santos regime. Santos is paying the Cubans to ensure the safety of his government.

Late last August, the UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar visited South Africa, the first visit by a UN secretary-general in 11 years. The outcome of his talks with South African Prime Minister Botha did not raise any hopes for early Namibia independence.

But to many watching the Namibian scene, it was time the Security Council and the so-called Western 'contact group' put it plainly to South Africa that Angola is not Namibia. The UN must go ahead with the planned elections in the territory and end the South African domination to enable the one million Namibians to determine for themselves.

Likewise, some 8,000 square miles of what now lie in the Equatorial and Upper Nile regions of the Sudan experience annual migrations of vast numbers of ani-

Belize puts Britain in a dilemma

By Ian Mather

BELIZE CITY — Two years after becoming independent, the former Central American colony of Belize presents a growing dilemma for the British government.

As in the Falklands, British troops are stationed here in strength as part of a 'Fortress Belize' policy aimed at deterring invasion from a neighbour, in this case, Guatemala.

With strains showing in Britain's defence budget, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is keen to pull out the 1,600 troops, but she is under pressure from the Reagan Administration not to do so.

Moreover, withdrawal, if followed by a Guatemalan invasion, would be a huge political defeat for Britain and a disaster for Belize, which is a democracy. The country has its own enthusiastic but still embryonic Belize Defence Force. The BDF, consisting of 800 volunteers, is being trained by British officers with the aim, according to its British commanding officer, Colonel Christopher Galloway, of making it a 'credible deterrent' to Guatemala's 20,000-strong army.

It is questionable whether this will ever be possible. The BDF is equipped with machine-guns, mortars, some elderly anti-aircraft guns and two recently acquired small aircraft. The most it could be expected to do would be to try to hold up any Guatemalan invasion until international opinion came into play. Moreover it will take at least five years for it to be able to manage without British officers.

The British are here under a defence agreement signed in September 1981. The terms are secret except for the provision that British troops will remain for a 'defined appropriate period'.

'We are honouring a pledge to a small member of the Commonwealth which would be like a shorn lamb to a wolf if we left,' said Brigadier Tony Pollard, the force's commanding officer. 'What does Britain get out of it? Britain gets the bill.'

The British armed forces have been lobbying London for a four year 'guarantee' of a continued presence in Belize. That would allow them to put up more permanent buildings, particularly for housing, instead of having to pay rents, and to regularise duty tours for the troops. But the government has given them March 1985.

Rebels wreck plans for Sudan's national park

By Alastair Matheson

NAIROBI (ONS) — Rebellious southerners fighting the Numeiry government in strife-torn southern Sudan, which some residents fear may be on the brink of another civil war, have wrecked plans to create a unique wildlife reserve which could have provided a major world tourist attraction.

The prestigious Frankfurt Zoological Society, at the instigation of the German conservationist Dr. Bernhard Grzimek, has already spent \$2 million in assisting the Sudanese authorities undertake preliminary work in the proposed Boma national park. Now, however, it has decided to pull out of the project and without further funding it is most unlikely that the government will go ahead in view of the rapidly deteriorating security situation.

This area in the extreme south-eastern corner of the Sudan is so remote and inaccessible for most of the year, due to the lack of all-weather tracks, that vast numbers of wild animals still abound. Conservationists who have surveyed the area around Boma convinced the authorities in Juba of the urgent need to protect this rich reservoir of wildlife. One of the first on the spot in the early seventies, Peter McIntock, an American zoologist, described it as a 'second Serengeti'. More recently an American publication referred to this wilderness as 'the land which time forgot'.

Lake the Serengeti park in northern Tanzania, some 8,000 square miles of what now lie in the Equatorial and Upper Nile regions of the Sudan experience annual migrations of vast numbers of ani-



British troops in Belize keep watch over the border with Guatemala

only 17 months away, as a 'working hypothesis', date 'which is subject to change'.

So for the time being British soldiers, currently paratroopers with Falklands experience, continue to patrol the jungle frontier with Guatemala. RAF Harrier jump-jets carry out 'high profile' training flights to impress the Guatemalans, and a British warship remains never more than a short sailing time from Belize.

The soldiers have opportunities to see what life under Guatemalan rule would be like for the Belizeans. The troops also regularly see groups of Guatemalan soldiers systematically picking up and kicking civilians, presumably suspected of having anti-government connections.

Both the Belize government headed by the veteran Prime Minister George Price

and the opposition party, the United Democratic Party, want British troops to stay, as does the entire population judging from the smiles and waves that greet British Land-Rovers as they enter villages.

The Americans, who could take over, are not popular because the Belizeans do not want to get sucked into the 'great game' being played out in Central America. Nor would they welcome Cuban 'protection'.

However, the Reagan Administration's heightened interest in the region has resulted in the American charge d'affaires, Mr. Malcolm Barneby, being upgraded to ambassador, and two defence attaches and two military instructors being added to his staff.

Observer News Service

ten Christian missionaries engaged on relief work. Six were freed soon afterwards, but the others were held for two weeks under threat of death awaiting payment of a ransom demand.

When ransom negotiations fell through, the Sudanese army made a commando-style raid with six helicopters carrying 120 soldiers. This freed the five hostages unharmed but 18 rebels and one soldier were killed in the operation.

Phil Snyder, who is now in Kenya after leaving Boma soon after the hostages were released (by coincidence he was in Juba 320 kilometres away when the guerrillas launched their attack), regrets the decision to drop the national park project. After putting much work into preparing the Boma Park, he felt that with little extra effort and cash, a 'care and maintenance' operation could have been resorted to until the security situation improved again, meanwhile enabling the crucial monitoring of the animals movements to continue.

He realises now, however that there is little chance of the Boma park area regaining its former tranquillity although the animals have not been harmed.

The decision by Khartoum to impose a re-division on the south ended all hope for the park project. As it has been provisionally gazetted, the park area now falls into two separate regions, the northern and larger part in Upper Nile where the Dinkas are in control, and the smaller southern portion is in Equatoria region, where the rulers are very much against the Dinkas.

This hitherto unknown group seized one West German employed in the park as a vehicle mechanic and also held as hostage

Arabs, Israeli moderates challenge tax exemptions for Zionist donations

PARIS — The Arabic weekly 'Al-Mustaqbal' reported that four former West Bank mayors, an Israeli member of Knesset (parliament) and a member of an anti-Zionist organization, have filed a suit in a court in Columbia, US seeking the annulment of tax exemptions for donations collected by Zionist organizations for the benefit of Israel. The suit was filed on 6 October.

The ex-mayors are Bassam Shak'a, Karim Khalaf, Ibrahim Al-Tawil and Walid Hamdallah. The Israeli (MK) is the Democratic Front's Charlo Bacon and Rabbi Moshe Hirsch of the Natural Karta organization.

Addressing a press conference in Jerusalem on Sunday, Mr. Murk Lane a Jewish-American advocate said the case is a historical one. He said the complainants' case is that funds collected by the Zionist organizations are being used to establish more Jewish settlements on Arab

territory. 'This is a violation of the US policies', Mr. Lane added.

Mr. Lane explained that these Zionist organizations are not religious, philanthropic or educational to enjoy tax exemptions as allowed by American laws. He noted that American tax payers are offering Israel millions of dollars without knowing it. 'These funds are used to deny Palestinians their rights', Mr. Lane charged.

Another Israeli advocate Ms. Follia Langer and Rabbi Hirsch jointly condemned Israeli policy on the settlements. Ms. Langer expressed the hope that many religious Jews would support the suit. Many Arab landlords at the press conference also spoke of instances where they have resisted temptations to sell their lands.

After the conference, the Israeli police arrested Rabbi Hirsch apparently to interrogate him in connection with the attack on the mayor of Jerusalem.

world

Angolan revolution goes sour

Food, other necessities are in short supply

By Godwin Matatu

LUANDA (ONS) — Luanda the Angolan capital, was once the pride of Imperial Portugal. Larger than any city in metropolitan Portugal, Luanda with its skyscrapers, bright neon lights, high rise apartments and seafaring cafes symbolised the continuity of the Portuguese presence in Africa.

Today, eight years after independence, it still retains its Portuguese flavour, but very little of its prosperous past. Huge murals of Angola's first president, the late Agostinho Neto, describing him as the "immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, founder of the nation and of the MPLA-Workers' Party" smother the walls of many buildings.

Other walls are covered with slogans invoking support for the party and its social ideals. The old statues of Portuguese sailors and generals have been replaced by tanks and armoured cars captured or used during the civil war of 1975-76.

All this blends into a colourful collage with advertisements for holidays abroad, fridges and TVs, and a wide variety of food products. This colourful gloss does nothing to hide the reality of life in Luanda today. Over 90 per cent of the shops in the city are empty. Their windows are shattered, and they look out into pavements and streets disfigured by dirt and potholes.

There are long queues for food; mothers with babies strapped to their backs line up from dawn for hours to get their share of the little there is. Eggs, meat, chicken, potatoes, rice, salt and cooking oil are extremely rare in Luanda and their shortage is particularly hard on a population whose palates have grown accustomed to Portuguese cuisine. Even in the "musseques", the shanty suburbs, the average Luandan finds it hard to change his diet to the more traditional food which, although also scarce, can be obtained from time to time.

Nearly all the food eaten in Luanda is imported. Chicken, eggs and meat come from Brazil by sea while Portugal, once an importer of food from Angola, provides cooking oil, salt and other commodities. However most of these first find their way to the 100,000-strong army, hospitals and the tables of the diplomatic corps

before the leftovers reach the public market.

Clothing is also hard to buy and most of it is imported. Angola produces 40,000 tonnes of cotton a year but its textile mills are only now beginning to operate. Shoes, mostly made of plastic, come from Brazil and cost \$20 a pair at the official exchange rate for the kwanza.

The shortages have made the average Angolan accumulate a lot of savings. According to an official at the Bank of Angola, Angolan workers have more money than most of their counterparts in Africa. "It is not that they have better saving habits. The nature of our economy just forces them to save," he said.

Another result of the shortages is a thriving black market in which most Luandans are involved. Goods are smuggled in from neighbouring countries and sold at exorbitant prices. One kilo of rice costs \$10, a kilo of meat \$12, a bottle of whisky a staggering \$400, again at the official exchange rate.

At the five-star Panorama Hotel the kwanza changes hands at one dollar for 1,000 kwanzas, the official rate is one dollar for 30 kwanzas. While Luandans are in constant search of food, their compatriots in the troubled southern provinces have it in abundance. Traditionally the breadbasket of Angola, the south is agriculturally rich and self-sufficient in food.

Travellers going north to Luanda carry little else except sacks of eggs, meat and vegetables. Angolan Airlines had to impose a ban on the transportation of live goats and chickens on their flights from the south.

The main reason for the lack of food in Luanda is the conflict between government troops and UNITA insurgents. Most of the main roads to the north are extremely dangerous and some are impassable because of UNITA ambushes.

The shortages are further aggravated by the absence of an organised transportation system. The state took over most of the transport sector in 1976 but none of it has been developed, except shipping along the coast. The few remaining private operators are reluctant to take the risk of supplying Luanda.

• LISBON — More than 300 people suffering from cholera have been admitted to the central hospital in Mozambique's capital of Maputo during the past two weeks, according to report by the Portuguese News Agency. The report said the state-run media were publishing preventive hygiene measures in an effort to prevent the spread of the disease. It added that a lack of disinfectant and soap supplies in some areas was hampering measures against the disease. An earlier outbreak of cholera in Mozambique was brought under control four months ago, the agency said.

• BANGKOK — The United States has formed a three-man team based in the US embassy in Bangkok to investigate the reported use of toxic weapons in Southeast Asia. The team will monitor and evaluate reports of the use of chemical and biological weapons and interview alleged victims of such attacks. It includes a physician and an expert in chemical and biological warfare. The United States has accused the Soviet Union of using lethal and incapacitating chemical weapons, or yellow rain on the Mujahideen in Afghanistan and directing such warfare against resistance forces and ethnic minorities in Vietnamese-occupied Laos and Kampuchea. At least 10,000 people have been killed in such attacks, the US officials claim. The Soviet Union and Vietnam have denied the charges, which have been based largely on tests of leaf samples and on refugee testimony.

• NEW DELHI — In a bid to test the nation's new election rules, the opposition Tamil Liberation Front has nominated a candidate for one of 16 seats it forfeited in Sri Lanka's parliament. Party Secretary-General Appillath Amirthalingam said "Mr. E. Sampanthan intends to run under the TULF banner in the upcoming election in Trincomalee, the important deep-water port in Northeastern Sri Lanka. All 16 seats held by the TULF fell vacant Saturday because its members had not attended parliament since 22 July. No date has been set for the election.

Salvadoran students worry about wartime education

By Soli Spasman

SAN SALVADOR (AP) — The crowded corridors of Gen. Francisco Menendez High School resound with the lively sounds of cheerful teenagers talking and joking.

Despite the horseplay and seeming normality, students are well aware they are living in a nation at war. A reporter recently sat down with a group of about 15 students in a roundtable discussion about school and life in El Salvador. Some of the students, in turn, asked the reporter questions about education in the United States and chances for going to college there.

Interminably, they said in chorus when asked how much longer they think the war between leftist guerrillas and the US-supported conservative government will last. And in the peculiar acceptance or resignation to violence that exists here after four years of war, they laugh.

"When the problem started, we were all scared," one youth explained. "As these years have gone by, it's changed a lot. Now we're used to it."

"If you hear a firefright, nobody gets worried," he said. But the war has affected everyone in the country.

Others admitted to being concerned about the chance for being caught in violence. A quiet youth who sat toward the back raised his hand politely and joined the discussion to say he often thought about it. "You go to a store; you see an armed guard, and worry," he said.

The public school is a modern concrete building with open-air plazas and hallways that double as balconies. Left alone without a teacher present, the students in the plainly furnished classroom showed a disarming willingness to talk about growing up in wartime.

They spoke with readiness and enthusiasm, often interrupting each other. But they unanimously agreed that they did not want to be named for fear of reprisals and some who were overruled said they would prefer if the name of the school not be mentioned either.

"Many of us have ideas," a student said. "Many times we can't express them out of fear." "There's a lot of fear that exists here," another said. "There is no respect for human rights."

A classmate said that at the beginning of the war, when there was more urban violence, political activity was common at the school. "At the beginning, many students joined in" (The insurgency), he said.

But he said that students who joined the guerrillas found that reprisals could be taken not only individually but against re-

latives, as well. "At the beginning it was a student uprising," another said.

Human rights groups blame government security forces and rightist death squads allegedly linked to them for the majority of the 47,000 wartime deaths.

The war now has moved largely to the countryside, with daily life in the capital generally unaffected. But jitter and tension remain. A girl told about how neighbours gathered socially one night heard loud noises outside and raced to their homes for safety. They later discovered with good-humored relief that the scary noises came from a herd of farm horses being driven past.

About half the class lingered in the corridor afterward to talk some more about the war and to ask questions about the chances for getting scholarships to study in the United States. They also were curious about the work of foreign journalists covering the war here, and one asked "Is it true everyone writes the same story?" That charge is often made by Salvadoran conservatives. The reporter said that was not true.

Many of the students live in the poorer neighbourhoods on the outskirts of San Salvador. Wealthier youths here usually attend private or parochial schools.

Annual tuition at the public high school is 64 colones — worth about \$17 — but half of the 3,700 students attending the morning and afternoon split shifts here qualify for a tuition waiver because of poverty.

Education technically is required through the ninth grade, but the rule is not enforced. The National University of El Salvador, whose campus was closed by government early in the conflict, and professional education associations were affected greatly by the government reaction to protest.

A student from Usulután province in strife-torn said he came to the capital to study because the school in his town closed. Another, now 20, said he had to drop out for two years because his mother lost her job as a result of the deteriorating wartime economy.

The students saw negotiations as a possible way out of the conflict. They also expressed hope that the United States would place less emphasis on a military solution and try harder to bring about peace.

"Everybody knows that the United States is the boss of everything here," the most vocal student said. He spoke so often that others started to roll their eyes each time he raised his hand. "The only thing they send us weapons and money for the soldiers," the youth from Usulután said. "We're part of the United States; the only thing lacking is making a declaration of it," a girl said.

Hungary moves on a special road to socialism

By Lajos Lederer

RETURNING to Budapest recently, after an absence of four years, I was astonished by the way the mood of the place had changed. I knew that conditions had improved, but I had not expected to see such advances in personal freedom or such a wide range of new opportunities to earn a better living.

I sensed some important changes the moment I arrived at Ferihegy airport. Policemen no longer hustle visitors towards the passport control boxes for tiresome questions about the visit and plans. Western newspapers and books are allowed in. Relaxed customs rules which enables you to bring in duty-free goods to the value of about \$75. Tourism is booming. Last year more than 15 million holiday-makers crossed the frontiers, 70 per cent of them from neighbouring communist states and 30 per cent from the west — mainly West Germany, Scandinavia and Austria (Austrians don't even need visas which can now be obtained on entry). Even more encouragingly, 3 million Hungarians holidayed abroad.

A first indication of how much things had changed was provided by the student working as a part-time taxi-driver who picked me up at left customs. He owns his own taxi as the result of a decree issued last year which allowed a private taxi-service to be started in Budapest. Large housing complexes which have provided millions of people with rented and owner-occupied accommodation could be seen on the way. There was optimism about the country's future.

In the centre of the city, signs of prosperity are everywhere. The pavements are blocked by parked cars: 1 million Hungarians have 1,100,000 private cars between them. A gorgeous variety of fruit and vegetables is displayed on street stalls. Shops sell perfume from Paris and whisky from Scotland. Things had thus improved, especially fast in the past few months. Political and economic liberalisation, which began in earnest in the early 1960s, has created a new confidence.

Further new economic measures have been introduced recently, allowing a re-



Janos Kadar—widely respected and trusted

Religious teaching has now been restored in schools, and the authorities are trying through the media to encourage young and old to follow their beliefs — a phenomenon unprecedented in a communist state. Almost every evening, there is a programme on television presenting the life and teachings of the heroes of the various Churches of past centuries.

A similar change in official attitudes has affected the Jewish community, survivors of a million before the holocaust. During lengthy talks with prominent Jewish leaders, including the chief Rabbi,

Dr Alexander Schreiber, I formed the impression that the condition of the Hungarian Jews had improved considerably in the past year or so. Moscow-inspired attacks on them for supporting Israel have ended. Few Jews now appear to wish to leave the country or emigrate to Israel.

Why has the Kremlin permitted Hungary to follow this special road to socialism? The accepted view is that the changes in social and economic policies were originated by Janos Kadar, the party leader, who was entrusted by Moscow to hold the country down after the 1956 revolt was crushed. But it is clear today that the ideas that sustained that revolt, and were rejected by Kadar at the time, are precisely those that in recent years have been steadily put into operation by him — a rich and tragic irony.

It is equally clear that Kadar is determined to prove that his decision in 1956, which gave him so much to live down, was in the best interests of the country. He has succeeded in establishing a 'socialist' society with a human face and in developing a successful economy by the adoption of capitalist methods.

He has achieved this, his friends claim, because of his accurate appreciation of what the Russians would put up with, and what they would not, in the process of preserving their empire. Long ago, perhaps when he himself was imprisoned by Stalin in the late 1940s for supporting Tito, Kadar realised that rigid class dictatorship could build up a dangerously explosive situation, particularly among a volatile and bloody-minded people like the Hungarians.

To secure the co-operation of the people, he managed to persuade the Russians that there were certain concessions they could make without opening the floodgates. Thus the army was given back its old uniform, and the despised Russian language ceased to be compulsory for all schoolchildren. He purged the political police, abolished internment without trial and stopped discrimination on grounds of class origin. There has been a clampdown on intellectuals in recent months, with police raids and searches at their homes and underground hide-outs, and

this seems to indicate an end to Kadar's tolerance of the country's 300 or so dissidents. The Government has also suppressed the Hungarian samizdat publications which had a circulation of several thousand copies. But the action stopped short of any arrests or trials.

Having established a modus vivendi with the people, Kadar embarked on a desperately needed reform of the country's economy. Some of the new measures showed a break with traditional socialist practices, though in a recent television interview, Kadar protested strongly against 'suggestions in the West' that the New Economic Mechanism included capitalist ingredients. "Unfortunately," Kadar said, "even our friends in the socialist countries manifested a certain anxiety as to what this reform amounted to." Indeed, he has gone to immense pains to persuade the Kremlin to let him carry on with the reform. Yuri Andropov, who has recently taken a great interest in the 'more flexible' Hungarian economic model, must be gratified that the new economic policies in Budapest have continued, although, for reasons which were never explained, they were shelved for five years from 1975-1980.

There are economic problems, of course. Central Committee Secretary Ferenc Havasi reported last week that both agriculture and industry had failed to meet their targets for 1983 because of the drought, difficulties in the world market and "our own mistakes." However, he added, "economic priorities remained stable." Kadar, at 71, has begun to enjoy the fruits of his endeavours. His previous shyness and modesty are disappearing.

Kadar is now trusted and respected by most Hungarians and is as popular in the country as Tito was in Yugoslavia. Hungary has a reputation of being a land where the impossible can happen. Kadar has proved it.

(London Observer Service)

China ignores the plight of overseas Chinese

By Humphrey Keenlyside

LIFE for the 16 million overseas Chinese (the "hua ch'iao") in South East Asia has never been easy. Since fleeing from a semi-feudal China in the 19th Century, in the wake of the opium war, they have faced continual oppression of one kind or another.

Originally hired by the former colonial powers to do back-breaking work in tin mines and on tea plantations, survival was at a premium. Showing exceptional resilience, the Chinese moulded a new way of life. For protection, they grouped together in closely-knit communities. Using their business acumen, economic progress of influence were carved out.

Gradually, they earned the silent blessing if not the co-operation of their colonial masters.

All this changed in the rush for independence after the Second World War. Indigenous populations resented their cultural separatism and their economic domination. Their suspected political attachment to mainland China has given rise to distrust and discrimination. What worried the new rulers of South East Asia was the extent of the control wielded by Peking over its brethren in the sub-continent.

In the mid-1950's, Chou En-Lai went out of his way to reassure the then newly independent countries of South East Asia that they were not "exporting revolution". Specific instructions were sent to Chinese nationals not to engage in political activities. At the same time, though, directives were issued to the Chinese abroad to join the "construction works of the mother country". Particularly during the violent upheavals of the Cultural Revolution, in the late 1960s, this "united front" policy was vigorously pursued. The governments of South East Asia were

accused of being "lackeys of imperialism".

By stretching out its hands to the Chinese people abroad, China was undermining the hard-won independence of the new states of South East Asia. In the process of establishing a national identity, absolute loyalty from its inhabitants was required. Chinese demands for their own education, their domination of business and their cultural ties with the mainland were seen as disloyal. To the extent this was encouraged by a government avowedly intent on creating an international socialism, this was a challenge to the predominantly capitalist systems of the South East Asian countries.

Dual nationality

One problem has been the question of dual nationality. This stems from a conflict of laws between the countries of South East Asia who apply the principle of "ius soli" (nationality arising from birth within the territory of that state) and China's adherence to "ius sanguinis" (nationality deriving from a parent (nationality the birth occurs).

By concluding a treaty with Indonesia in 1955 and by instructing "dual nationals" to opt for local citizenship, China has made concessions to host governments. But there still remain those who have retained Chinese nationality of whom the host governments are suspicious — tempted to a certain extent by their appreciation of the wealth generated by Chinese business enterprise. Indonesia is particularly keen to restrict the numbers of Chinese "aliens" (about a million in 1980) to eliminate any possibility of an intervention by China.

Past experience has shown, though, Peking, contrary to its rhetoric, is reluctant to intervene on behalf of its compatriots. In 1960, when relations between China and Indonesia were comparatively

good, Peking offered little assistance when the Indonesian government provoked riots by banning alien-owned retail stores in rural areas at the expense of the Chinese communities.

Yet, in 1965, following the attempted coup — which Indonesia has always claimed China was behind — Peking's reaction was much stronger. Further riots had been sparked off by the suicide of a pro-Peking communist in jail after his arrest for disseminating subversive pamphlets. Violent attacks on the diplomats of both countries culminated in the severance of diplomatic relations in 1967.

On occasions, Peking has ignored the plight of the overseas Chinese communities. The most glaring example is Peking's support for the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime in Kampuchea. It was estimated, following the Khmer Rouge victory of April 1975 some half million Chinese were driven out from Phnom Penh and other cities in which they were predominantly engaged in commerce. Peking justified its lack of initiative on the grounds that it was not discriminating solely against the Chinese.

By contrast, when Vietnam announced in March 1978 it was dismantling business operations in Cholon, the twin city of Saigon, ostensibly aimed at "bourgeois traders... regardless of nationality or religion", China came swiftly to the rescue. Fleeing Chinese were provided with passports (overlooking legal technicalities many had, since 1956, been Vietnamese nationals) and boats were sent to assist them in their flight.

Remittance a link

Ideological consideration aside, the need for China to maintain contact with its communities derives from the promise of continued remittances. Many Chinese in South East Asia still have relatives on

the mainland to whom they send gifts and money.

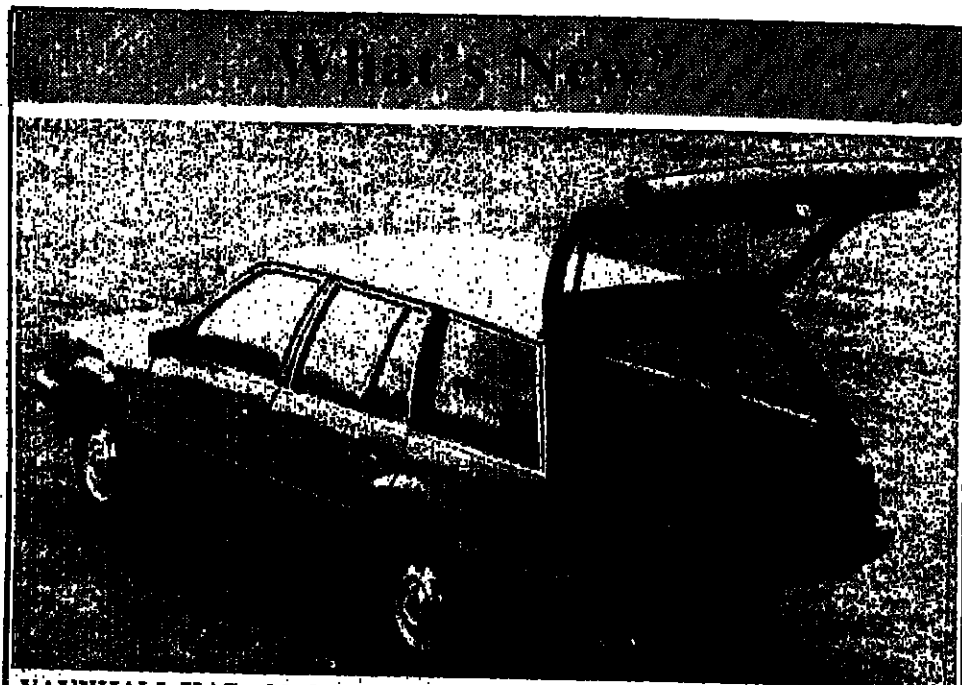
Peking has had to weigh up the value of these remittances (approximately \$400 million in 1978 which Teng Hsiao-Ping hoped might eventually be increased to an annual \$1 billion) against the embarrassment which continued links with China have periodically caused.

In Malaysia, feuding between the indigenous populations and the ethnic Chinese has broken most violently into the open over two issues: education and political representation. Resulting from a 1967 decision by the Malay government to pursue foreign curriculum programmes, the Chinese planned to set up their own university. Consistently blocked by the Malay administration and judiciary, it was only in July 1982 the episode was put to rest.

In Indonesia where the Chinese minority (less than 3 per cent of the total population) may control as much as 70-80 per cent of private trade, largely as a result of past contacts with foreign business, resentment amongst the indigenous population has built up. Chinese businessmen have been subjected to periodic attacks as for example in December 1982. As in Malaysia, the Chinese have experienced resistance to their educational institutions. Schools have been outlawed and newspapers shut down.

For the countries of South East Asia, Chinese business enterprise is a mixed blessing. It makes a much-needed contribution to local economies but stirs up feelings of resentment amongst indigenous populations. Legal and potential political ties with China have caused these countries particularly Indonesia and Singapore — to be wary. China is however gradually severing its links with its overseas populations.

(South/Third World Media)



VAUXHALL HAS added a 1600 cc estate version to their successful cavalier range. The car will be available with three levels of equipment from JD 3100 to JD 3800 to sharpen the Luton medium car challenge to arch-rival Ford whose 1600 Sierra estate is around JD 70 cheaper, model for model.

In a Cavalier vs Sierra checklist some specific advantages lie with the Vauxhall. Its load platform is only 18 inches above road level, and 5 inches lower than the Sierra's.

The Cavalier platform extends to the rear edge because the centre section of the bumper is attached to the rear hatch, and lifts with it. There is less intrusion by lamp clusters and rear wheel arches, and the Vauxhall has a more level waistline and lower rear window line. Most of these advantages are the result of the Cavalier's front-drive layout.

Both Sierra and Cavalier estates feature split rear seats. The Ford wins back a little on total load area and slightly flatter platform with the rear seats down.

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Illusions of peacekeeping

WE CAN no longer accept the definition of the Multi-national forces in Lebanon as peace-keeping forces. That status, we believe, was lost a month ago when the American and French forces became part of the fighting factions on Lebanon's battle field. The United States and France thought that by mustering the largest naval power in peacetime off the Lebanese coasts and by actually deploying forces to fight in the battles of Souk Al-Gharb and others, they can put the lid on the steaming militias and other factions involved.

We do not condone the brutal attack on the French and American military forces last week, which took the lives of over 200 soldiers, but it has to be said that the presence of these forces and their role prompted such attacks. The bloody incident symbolizes the total failure of US strategies in Lebanon and the Middle East as a whole.

President Reagan's remarks on Sunday's attack do not seem to convince us that the United States has learned anything from the incident. Mr Reagan still spoke of "vital US interests in Lebanon" and the Marines' role as a peace-keeping one. Mr Reagan also said that peace in Lebanon is central to peace in the Middle East. Agreed, but he warned that he will not tolerate Lebanese forces "hostile to the West" because that will damage "our strategic interests in the Eastern Mediterranean." So peace in Lebanon and the Middle East, in Mr Reagan's view, is parallel to safeguarding the West's interests in the region.

It is sad that many American families had to realize the bitter realities of the Middle East through the loss of their sons, but one thing must be made clear and that is the massacres of last week were only one short scene of a more than 80-year-old nightmare, which our people have been going through.

Mr Reagan's words of strategic interests and hostility to the West and his country's pure search for world peace should only receive our disgust and doubt. It is time the United States and her allies began to look at the open wounds of our region from a human vantage point and not through theories of strategy and geopolitical priorities. If the United States is truly searching for peace worldwide and in our region, then it has to call back its nuclear-powered carriers and supersonic jets and its 2000 men in battle uniforms, and begin to study the historical origins of the continuous crises in our region.

The United States and neocolonialist France must accept formidable and inevitable facts. The application of force, even under misleading names like peace-keeping force, cannot achieve the results the White House and the Elisee would like to see a thousand miles away, if these results will conflict with the legitimate aspirations of the people. France and the United States should remember the "bitter" lessons of Algeria and Vietnam.

Painful decisions

AS THE government applies itself to the difficult process of preparing a financial budget for the coming year, it is apparent that the choices to be made will be as hard as they have ever been — if not more so. Setting priorities for spending is never simple, when it means cutting out some projects that, while they are less urgent than others, are nonetheless necessary.

Jordan has a good record when it comes to making such decisions. But there is always the danger that in promoting the vital spending needs, the postponement of important projects may drag on for years, until finally they become lost at the bottom of a pile of paperwork and never revived.

This week we have learned that due to financial limitations, the excavation of ancient Jerash is going to have to be put off for the time being. During 1984 the top archaeological priority will be on consolidation and restoration. This is a sensible enough choice; but we hope that that consolidation work will not be lackadaisically pursued because of the feeling that what is there will always be there. And excavations must be resumed at some time, before population growth means the loss of priceless remains.

In another area, it has become clear that while no final official decision concerning Aqaba has been made, the record of action over the past five years amounts to a tendency to turn over our only outlet to the sea to industry and shipping, leaving the town's touristic and resort potential by the wayside. This sort of "legislation by neglect" threatens to lead to environmental damage, and the irretrievable loss of what has been an important earner of tourist income as well as a vacation spot for our native populace.

Industrial projects at Aqaba are necessary for the country's survival, though perhaps their siting could have been more thoughtful. Archaeological excavations, too, can usually afford to wait as long as there is a sensible programme for their implementation in the future.



MNF finds it difficult to be neutral in Lebanon



By Thomas L. Friedman

WITHOUT anyone really noticing it at first, the Marines in Lebanon have been transformed during the last month of fighting from a largely symbolic peacekeeping force — welcomed by all — to just one more faction in the internal Lebanese conflict. Between September 1982 and July 1983, one Marine was killed and 10 wounded in Beirut clashes. In the last two months six American servicemen have died in action and 50 have been wounded — including one killed and nine injured last week.

The Marines originally came to Lebanon to support the central Government and facilitate the withdrawal of foreign forces. They have discovered, however, that in supporting the government they have become the adversaries, and targets, of many Lebanese opposition groups; and in pressing for the withdrawal of foreign troops, they have run squarely into Syria.

The political community here is just too fragmented and the government's legitimacy too tenuous for any outside force to be respected as a neutral party for long.

American policymakers in general and the Marines in particular are only partially prepared for the change in role that has been forced upon them. For example, when the Marines arrived in Lebanon in September 1982 it was decided that they would protect "open" ground, particularly the airport. Peace was in the air at that time, everyone was upbeat and so the Marines could spend their days passing out bubblegum to children and watching a succession of planes took off from Beirut airport. But then this August the situation turned sour. West Beirut militias threw the army out of most of Beirut's southern suburbs, and suddenly the Marines' cozy airport peacekeeping command was turned into a battlefield.

The ground, which never seemed to matter before, meant that now they were almost surrounded by "high ground," shantytowns populated by a variety of Shi'ite Muslim militiamen hostile to the Lebanese Army and all its friends.

The Marines, of course, were not caught totally off guard by this change in environment. When snipers from the Burj al-Barajneh suburb started firing on them, they unveiled their own snipers and fired right back, rather effectively, too. For a few days that quieted the situation, but then on Wednesday a Marine supply convoy was passing through the streets, and someone detonated a car bomb next to it, injuring four Americans. When it

comes to killing people, the creativity of underground groups here knows no limit, as the Israelis, who had two more of their soldiers blown up in Sidon last week, will sadly attest. The Marines are slowly being sucked into the rhythm of Lebanese political violence.

More frustrating, the Marines really have no idea who is shooting at them. They reported seeing men wearing red and black camouflage standard issue "Warren Pact" uniforms, but in Lebanon the color of a man's uniform is no more a tip-off to his real political allegiance than the color of his eyes. The Marines have maintained good relations with the Shiite Muslim Amal militia, which they thought controlled the area around them. But Amal spokesman Sami Sibiani noted:

"There used to be 100 different organizations in these neighborhoods in the pay of all different kinds of people. No one can say they are all gone or expect us to be able to control them all 100 per cent."

Assuming, as most Lebanese political analysts do, that the national reconciliation dialogue scheduled to open in Switzerland soon does not produce any immediate national entente, the Marines are going to have to find an answer to the problem of how to remain a peacekeeping force in a country where no one is allowed to be neutral for long.

At his news conference last week, President Reagan signaled Syria that the United States considered it the ultimate mastermind and arms purveyor behind those trying to disrupt efforts for national accord. The President would not "just stand by" may have contributed to Syria's agreement to the reconciliation dialogue in Geneva, after weeks of apparent stalling. But in the event of further hostilities how far can the Americans really go beyond rhetoric? The battleship New Jersey, stationed offshore, is powerless against snipers, assassins, car-bombers and political intimidation, which are the stock in trade of anti-Government forces in Lebanon.

This is why the Syrians have an advantage in any matchup against Washington. They play by their own rules — "Hama al-Barajneh" suburb started firing on them, they unveiled their own snipers and fired right back, rather effectively, too. For a few days that quieted the situation, but then on Wednesday a Marine supply convoy was passing through the streets, and someone detonated a car bomb next to it, injuring four Americans. When it

(New York Times)

Kamel
Abu
Jaber



Beirut, the violent reminder

Greetings to Jerusalem!

NO, THE Arabs do not like what took place in Lebanon this week! Violence at best is an ugly thing, though in self defence, it is sometimes permitted. At worst, violence reduces man to the status of beast, animal against animal. The great political philosophers, or most of them at any rate, made a distinction between just and unjust violence. The latter necessary for the preservation of life, dignity and honour.

The death of the innocent is always lamentable and always ugly. No Arab, in whole veins runs the blood of chivalry, the ethics and the morality of our culture, feels anything but sorrow at the death of the young Americans and Frenchmen in Beirut. There is no pride in it and surely the matter would have been different had they died on the battlefield.

To their mothers and families, go our condolences and sympathy. To their governments which were responsible for their presence there in the first place, we have some questions. Who were these young soldiers protecting? The Lebanese? While Lebanese and Why? Or were they truly protecting Israel and her gains? Why were these soldiers there in the first place?

To the Western governments and to the mothers and fathers everywhere we ask, "Had Israel accepted to conclude peace with the Arabs in line with United Nations' Resolution 242 or in accordance with the Arab Fez plan or even with the Reagan initiative, would the bloodbath in Lebanon continue? Why are there five hundred thousand Palestinians in Lebanon? Who put them, and who keeps them there? How is it that the entire Western world has come to see only what Israel sees and feels and to defend Israel, right or wrong? What Israel are you protecting: that of 1948, 1967, 1983?"

Violence truly is ugly but is the lost blood of the young American and French boys any different from that of the young Arabs, Lebanese, Palestinians, Syrians? We have not become calloused to violence nor do we accept it and when we fight back, it is in seemingly desperate, futile, self defence.

Since the creation of Israel in 1948, we have known nothing but sadness and desperation. Our insecurities have become so institutionalized that we are constantly looking over our shoulder to see from where the next blow. The hands that planted the bombs may have been Arab, but the desperation that drove them to that violent act has its origin elsewhere. Israel itself is violence: physical and moral. It is a daily aggression against our lives, culture, children and morality.

We have come to accept its existence, but, ironically enough, it refuses to recognize ours. The Palestinians, it says, do not exist; they are a mere figment of someone's imagination. And thus it continues, an armed aggressive war machine, feeding upon violence, and in occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and even Egyptian Tabu: Egypt with whom it has a peace treaty!

When will the blood bath stop? No one knows nor seems to care to know. But surely the hands that armed Israel and fed her and continue to do so share in the blame. Condolences to the families of the dead, French, Palestinian, American, Lebanese and others. They all paid with their lives because of Israel and its intransigent, expansionist, and aggressive policies. Homer, in his Odyssey, reminds us, "It is not right to exult over slain men..." When the slain men were slain in such a cause as that of protecting Israeli violence, their death is the more sad and lamentable.

The rubble is not only in Beirut. There, it is only more visible but the rubble is everywhere in the Arab world either actual or potential. We expect the long arm of Israel to strike anywhere, anytime, without warning and without mercy. It is in the blown up houses, razed villages and broken dreams: in the scattered camps of Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and even as far away as Yemen, Algeria and Tunisia. It is not only in the French or the American mother's eye, but in the tear rolling down the cheek of a Palestinian child, his house demolished and his family slain.

This is not an apology for the hands that perpetrated the deed but a reminder that violence begets violence. The Arabs are not now nor were they before enemies of the West and it puzzles them that the West who unleashed Israel on them in the first place, does not seem to be able, or perhaps care to control it. All this death and destruction what for? To protect which Israel? While we lament the dead, our dead and your dead together we ask that you control your client. On your part, that will take difficult confrontation and vision. Our situation in the Middle East now needs vision otherwise men will continue to perish.

27 October 1983

opinion

Arab-world interrelationships

WHAT in fact has stimulated the writing of this article is a note sent to the editor of The Jerusalem Star on the 20th of this month, entitled "Ask Egypt back" by Mr. R. Al-Moun (Zarqa-Jordan). The note contends that "Egypt will always play a pivotal role in uniting Arab world and putting an end to Israel's plot." True, but what type of Egypt and what kind of a united Arab world can put an end to Israeli plots, we may ask?

Again the note remarked that we should "admit that isolating Egypt was a grave mistake and that an end should be put to this isolation. Fine and agreed! But on what conditions? Is it again to be some sort of wishful and "purely emotional" thinking like that which (according to the note) dictated the Arab boycott of Egypt as well as the Arab stance from the Camp David accords in 1979?

Everybody likes Egypt to rejoin the Arab struggle against the invader, but is present Egypt willing to wholeheartedly rejoin the struggle, or rather is it capable of doing so? The whole issue needs a lot of meditation, debating and analysis rather than be made to infiltrate into the Arab mind haphazardly and unconditioned. The decision to be taken on the issue should, likewise, be based on "strategic thinking" like that which the note would like the decision to boycott Egypt to have been taken.

Before letting bygones be bygones, and before having the decision to ask Egypt back, taken, it seems essentially necessary to review certain pre-requisites. First, one must ask what kind of politico-economic strategy the Arab world should draw for the future. Second, an analysis of the currently prevalent pattern of politico-economic Arab world inter-relationships should be made in the light of the newly drawn strategy. And third, a similar study of Egypt's politico-economic stance from this strategic, in light of its relationships with the Arab world, on

the one hand, and with the outside, on the other hand, should be also conducted.

It is no complicated question to try to build up a strategy for the Arab world future politico-economic stance. It is clear that the present dissipation that prevails the Arab world and that has encouraged further isolationist moves in Lebanon would not have had to happen if the Arabs

By Henry Matar

agreed on one clear-cut strategy wholeheartedly rather than by lip-service. It is also clear that, politically and economically, the strategy for the future must be based on this fundamental rule: To be friendly towards those who help us against Israel and hostile towards those who treat Israel as a strategic ally or as a means to ward off internal troubles, or to get rid of possible trouble makers.

Again this basic rule should be taken as a guideline wholeheartedly. A model of this politico-economic strategy was adopted for a short period in 1973 during the October War.

As for the currently prevalent pattern governing the politico-economic Arab-world inter-relationships, nothing can be better processed than the brilliantly instructive work paper which Prof. Sa'ad-din Ibrahim, the celebrated Egyptian sociologist presented to the seminar on "The Political and Economic Relationships with the Arab World," held in Amman recently. Dr. Ibrahim's work paper was published in Ad-Dustour daily newspaper on 11 October, and it is on the basis of this work paper that the following resume about the Arab world politico-economic strategy over 1973-1983 is made.

During the Seventies the Arab world did not adopt a common political strategy to be backed by a parallel common economic strategy. It had been wrongly

thought during this period that an Arab-world unified economic policy could be achieved by a loose and distorted economic development of each country in the way that the concerned country thought feasible.

Instead of serving the goal of building an integrated pan-Arab economy, which would have been the shortest cut and the strongest bulwark of a pan-Arab political front, each country selfishly started to develop its own economy by any means that it found available.

Three main things have resulted from such practices. First, wide free scope has been given to Foreign investment mainly Western — to play a substantial role in the economies of the Arab world, which meant the confirmation of economic dependence on the West. And what has made matters worse is that instead of having the economy of each individual Arab country depend on the economy of mainly one Foreign state, as used to be the case prior to 1973, the economic dependence in each individual Arab state has become multinational.

Secondly, matters would have looked definitely brighter had inter-Arab-trade benefited by the 1973-1983 economic policy. On the contrary, the period has not witnessed a progress in the volume of inter-Arab trade over the pre 1973 decade, but it has continued to oscillate around five per cent only of the total size of Arab-world trade transactions. Against this percentage the Arab-world's Foreign imports from the Western capitalist countries, in the main, more than tripled.

Thirdly, the only seemingly progressive improvements on the inter-Arab economic situation have been introduced through the flood-like migration of the Arab labour across individual states' borders, and through the outflow of Arab funds from rich Arab states to poorer states. But even these two factors only helped to increase economic dissipation and instability.

Memorandum

By Osama Khashari

Them and us

I CANNOT say whether the massive wave of art exhibitions that we are going through presently should be considered as a healthy sign. I am no expert on contemporary arts, but I think I can trust my instincts and make a relatively sound judgement when I see a painting.

My office was littered last week with invitations to a number of art exhibitions by Jordanian artists. I visited some of these exhibitions and I came out with mixed feelings. In my personal opinion Jordanians should be proud of the fact that the country has a large number of talented artists, but at the same time, I believe that many of these artists lack experience, personal style and above all a message. Let me make myself clear: I was raised to believe that artists, whether they are painters, musicians or sculptors are, like writers, motivated by the social, political and cultural challenges of their society. The writer expresses his opinion and delivers his message through his articles, novels, poems while the artists uses a brush, stone or music to do so.

What I noticed and felt from my tour of art exhibitions was the obvious emptiness that some of these artists are going through. So what? Many of our writers are going through the same process. But there is one difference, I think, and that is the artist's relative freedom to air his or her message without getting into trouble. I expected to see topics that deal with the young generation's identity ori-

sis, the loss of our pride and the slow disintegration of Arab culture and existence, critiques of social and political realities and other well-known diseases. What I saw was different. Political themes were still illustrated in the old classical manner: Java destroyed by the Israelis, refugees in a camp, a coffin that walks and raises the Palestinian flag and others.

More sophisticated topics were expressed in complex styles using ultra-modern techniques, which only the artist and his or her colleagues could understand. I won't conceal my feelings: I think we are still far from the stage where our artists can communicate their messages through abstract art. Our problems are not so abstract, yet.

Art should be popular and to reach that stage it should try to get to the masses not the elite. The worker and the farmer should be able to grasp the general theme of a work of art as well as the teacher, the businessman and the journalists.

So how healthy is it to see the growing number of art exhibitions and artists, who discuss with you superficial themes like their agony and their sense of loss, when the whole nation is at a crossroad that could seal its fate?

Maybe it is too late for writers to save themselves and write what they think. I hope it is not that late for artists who are just beginning their careers. They still have a chance to succeed where we failed.

THE JERUSALEM STAR 15

A centre where people 'really want to learn'

Rural communities find wide range of educational, social services at Rahma Centre

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

THE INHABITANTS of the 32 villages of the Belka area surrounding the Princess Rahma Community Development Centre have become frequent visitors of the centre because it offers them technical training and development programmes and family services they could get nowhere else.

The centre's leading activities and a connection to Germany were the reasons for a recent visit by a highly-placed visitor, Mrs. Hannelore Kohl, wife of the West German chancellor.

Since the establishment in 1980 the Princess Rahma Centre, in co-operation with West Germany's Konrad Adenauer Foundation, has been offering free community service programmes and projects which extend to the social, cultural, medical, agricultural and educational fields. Mr. Michael Lange, the Adenauer Foundation's representative in Amman, told The Star that the aim of the centre is to speed rural development.

Farmers can get training courses and lectures on modern agricultural procedures, as well as advice in the farming difficulties they face. Mayors and leaders of the rural areas are invited to attend the special leadership courses and lectures on change agents and the law of village councils. Staff members of other similar centres are also trained there, helping them learn how to handle their jobs and work with people.

Special emphasis

But the largest proportion of the centre's activities is dedicated to women, youth and children. Women gather for the sewing, knitting and adult literacy courses as well as health and sanitation programmes. They also learn about income-generating activities for families such as home gardening for the market and raising rabbits for sale.

The young ladies seem to prefer the typing courses, and young people gather at the youth club to participate in its many activities. Around 40 four-year-old children attend the kindergarten classes which have been opened recently.

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) that plays a role in the centre's activities. It designs most of the training courses in addition to organizing seminars and lectures and providing technical help.

Mrs. Rubiha Nasser, the Senior Programme Assistant at UNFPA, told The Star that UNFPA deals mainly with population and family planning. "But people do not have the right attitude towards it and are somewhat afraid of family planning because they confuse it with birth control," she said. "That is why the idea is promoted gradually in each of the training courses."

Enthusiasm

Mrs. Nasser said that when the women are not busy working with the ploughing or the harvest, they crowd together at the centre. "What's amazing is that you see women breastfeeding their babies or with toddlers asleep on their laps as they listen seriously to the lectures. This tells us that they really want to learn," she said.

When the Princess Rahma Centre was first established, people had to come to the centre itself to attend its courses. Then the idea came about for the centre to spread out to the villages and offer the

same services there, and thus making transportation an easier matter for the villagers.

"Sewing and training courses are now being run at the village of Subeihl," said Mrs. Nasser. "And the women are all much happier that they are held near their homes."

There are now many graduates from the sewing courses but most families cannot afford to buy a sewing machine, so the centre has purchased over 100 machines and families can pay for them with monthly instalments. They have also established women's co-operatives in the villages so that the women can do group work and sell it in the market.

Mrs. Nasser said that the centre is planning to offer further family income-generating courses such as vegetable freezing. The courses will teach them the proper procedures so that they can sell the vegetables frozen to the towns. "Not only will such a thing help the working women, but it will also help the working women at the cities as imported frozen vegetables are very expensive."

Medical programme

Free medical treatment is available six days a week at the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) section, which is run in co-operation with the Ministry of Health. The clinic's doctor, midwife, nurse and assistant nurse also spend one day a week running housecalls.

Mrs. Nasser said that in addition to providing medical treatment, MCH tries to inform mothers about health and child care, hygiene, pregnancy, the advantages of child spacing for the mother's health and the importance of having regular medical check-ups.

Besides its community development activities, the Princess Rahma Centre has programmes in research and information dissemination and publication.

Research service

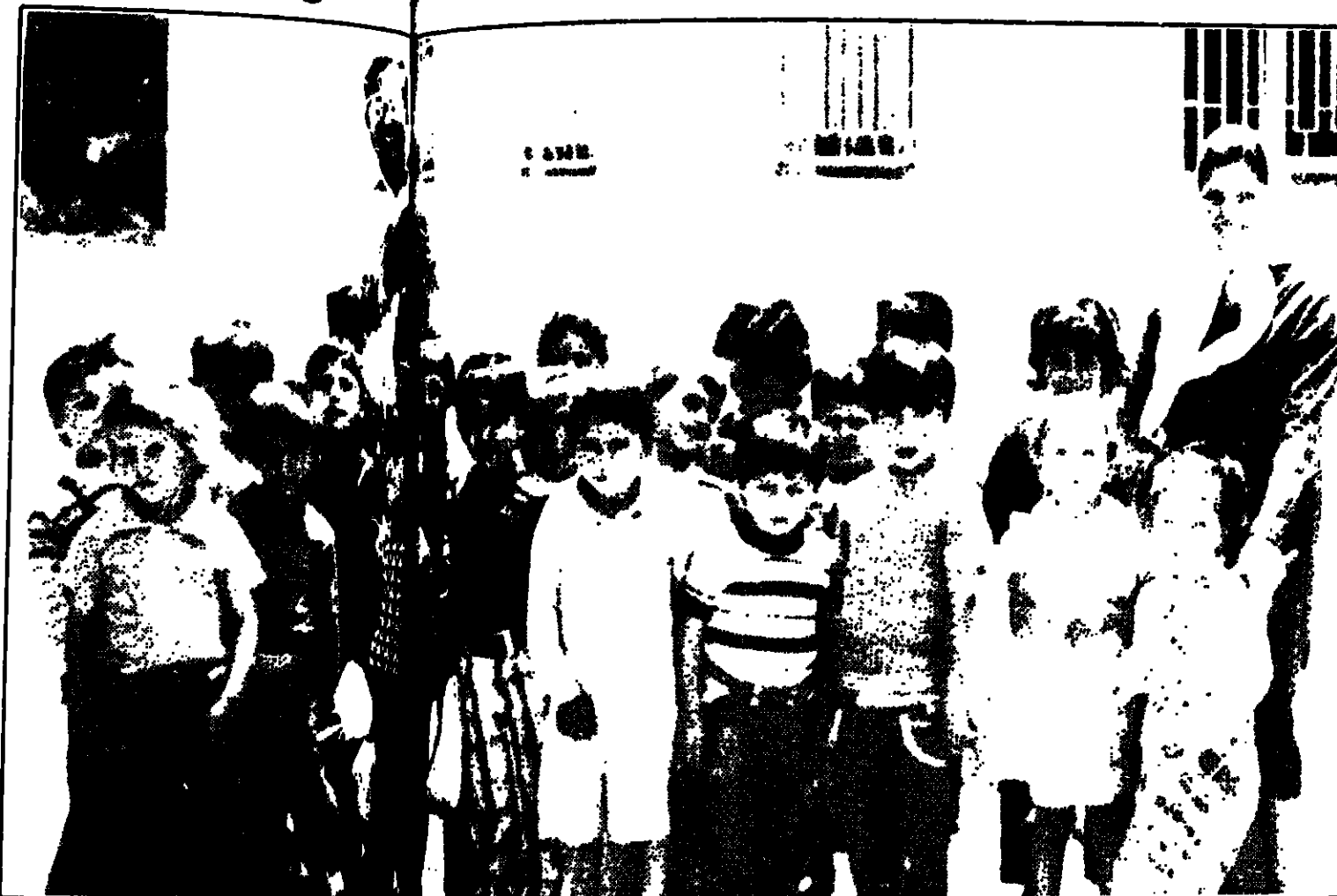
Research done at the centre is mainly oriented to needs assessment, project evaluation, employment generation for women, study of agricultural methods and techniques, health practices and migration patterns.

People attending the centre can borrow material from the library and volunteer developmental institutions or individuals engaged in rural development can obtain technical advice from the centre's consultative service.

The Princess Rahma Centre is the first of the five community development centres whose establishment throughout the rural and bedouin areas was called for by the Jordanian Three Year Plan 1973-5. The centre assumes the umbrella function of training the professional staff and of advising the other four centres which are located at Kralmeih, Sama Sarhan, Dhiban and Hai Hamlan.

The Institute for International Partnership of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation has been working with the centre since 1981. Besides providing finance the foundation has also been strengthening the centre's training activities and upgrading the equipment of the audio-visual section.

Mr. Lange told The Star that the foundation is an independent non-profit public service organisation. With the support of the German funds for development purposes, the foundation works with non-governmental organization partners in developing countries to provide them with development aid and training assistance.



Happy clients: Family services are the core of Princess Rahma Centre's activities

Since its establishment in 1984, it has been working with over 60 developing countries.

"Our idea of development is to help our local partners with the starting point. As soon as we are sure that they can carry on the work on their own, we move to other projects," said Mr. Lange.

Mr. Lange said that, during her recent visit, Mrs. Kohl was very impressed with the work of the Princess Rahma Centre, especially as so much is being done for the women of the area.



Mrs. Nasser



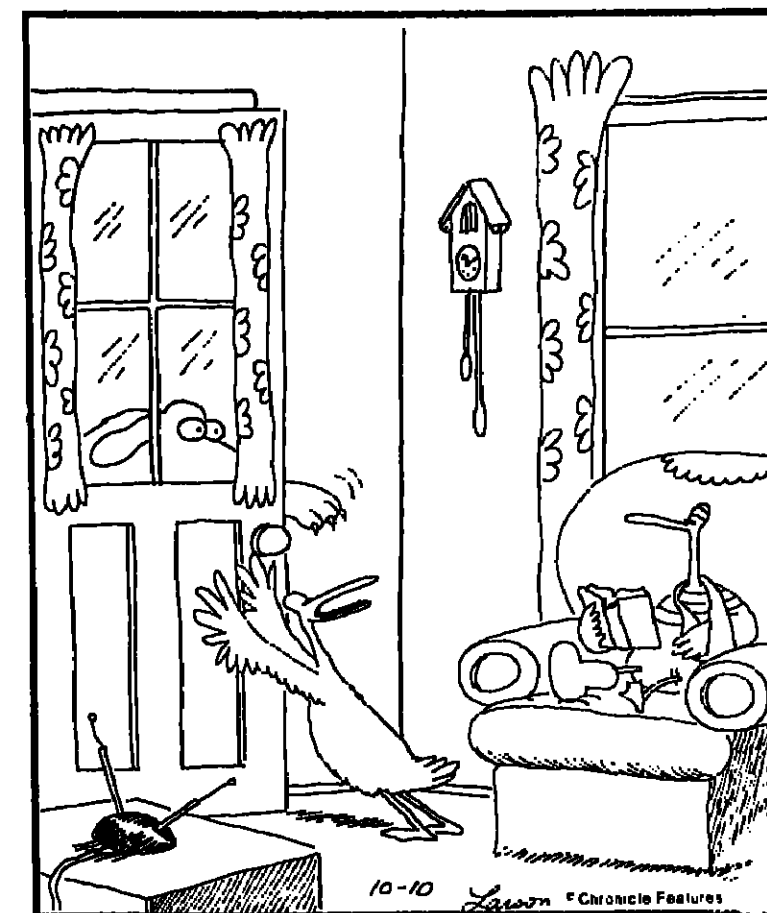
The centre as seen from a nearby hilltop



Mrs. Kohl and Mrs. Mufti examine progress in one of the centre's construction projects



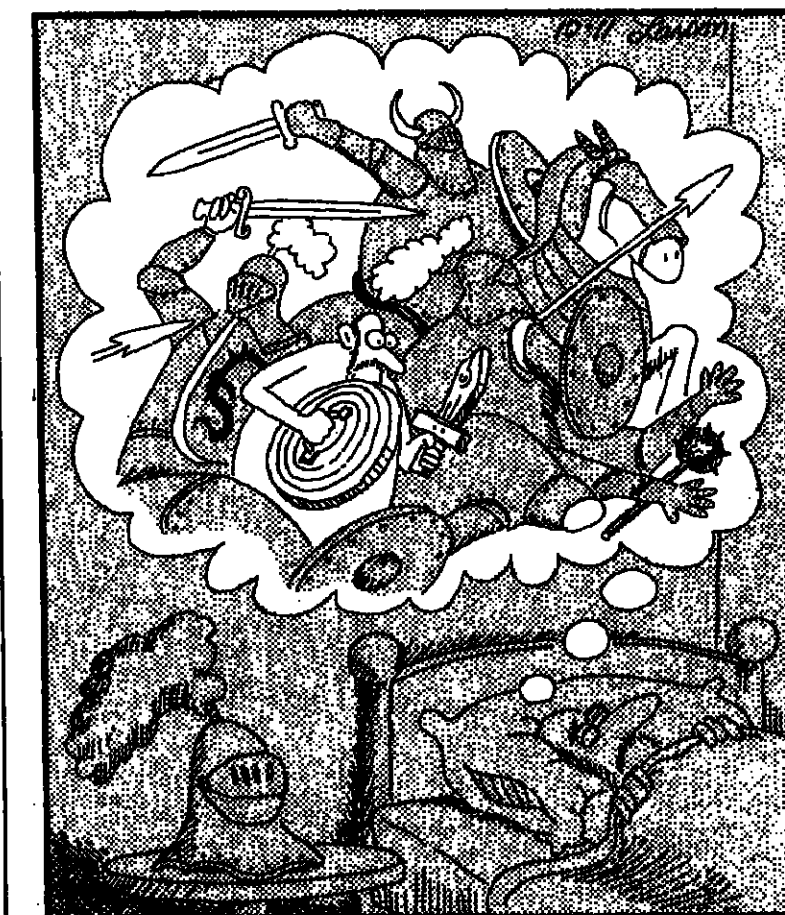
Mr. Michael Lange (in white suit) accompanies Mrs. Mufti (to his right) and Mrs. Kohl on their visit to the centre



"Look out, Larry! ... That retriever has finally found you!"

The Far Side

By Gary Larson



Common medieval nightmare

VIEWPOINT

The time for a reckoning

By Ya'coub Jaber

THE US Marines and French soldiers who died last Sunday in Beirut's shocking explosions were the victims of a series of political follies and erroneous calculations. When the Marines were sent to Lebanon over a year ago, they were told that their mission was to maintain peace. At the beginning, it was easy to believe what was said. But when the war flared up in the mountains and began to take its toll among the Multinational Forces, things started to look different.

Indeed, the tragic and most regrettable death of hundreds of Marines has made things look different — to President Reagan, to Congress, and to Lebanon itself.

President Reagan could hardly find the right words to describe what happened, and why it happened, in a crucial election year. Stunned Congressmen may blame themselves in private, because they had agreed to extend the Marines' presence in Lebanon for 18 months. But both Mr Reagan and Congress will find it extremely difficult to come up with acceptable excuses.

For ordinary Americans, the tragedy may prove too shocking to be encompassed by rhetoric and vague announcements. The spectre of another Vietnam will certainly begin to loom in the minds of a large number of Americans from all walks of life. The Beirut incident may mean set the time has come for a reckoning.

American officials have been giving various explanations for the need to maintain the United States' military presence in Lebanon. Outside the official circles, some suggest that President Reagan has been seeking a significant political achievement in Lebanon, to endear him to the voters in next year's presidential election. If this is true, then the president has selected the wrong place. The Beirut explosions have turned the tables on Mr Reagan, making his chances to get reelected slimmer than ever before.

Apart from the negative effect on the president's plans, the Beirut carnage is bound to have a profound impact on the American public's attitude towards the Middle East. It has already prompted noted columnists and intellectuals to question their country's policies and commitments in the volatile region.

In their search for the truth, some Americans may ask who is responsible for pushing events to these disastrous proportions and why the Marines were sent to a country thousands of miles away from America's shores. The powerful Zionist lobby will try to mislead them, but the truth is too clear to be covered up by false allegations.

The US public must be made to know that their country's military involvement in Lebanon has been the direct result of Israel's ill-fated invasion. Facing a costly war of attrition in the Lebanese mountains, Israel pulled back and conned the US and other Western powers into trying to achieve what its army had failed to accomplish. Israel is thus indirectly responsible for the brutal death of the American and French soldiers in Beirut.

The incident, after all, may alert conscientious Americans to the fact that Israel in reality is not a strategic asset for the US but a heavy liability, whose costs increase each day.

Middle East Editorial Opinion

MONDAY'S NEWSPAPERS devote front-page editorials to comment on the explosions at the US Marines headquarters and the French forces' post in Beirut.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas expresses the view that the attack against the Marines might be connected with President Reagan's threats against Syria, while the attack on the French might be part of Iran's reaction to France's sale of Super Etendard planes to Iraq.

The paper voices fears about a possible US decision to reactivate the Israeli role in Lebanon and about the possibility of a Syrian-Israeli confrontation.

It concludes by saying that such attacks should be directed against Israeli troops, and not against Israel's allies, so that they may not be interpreted as part of the battle of influence between the superpowers.

Another Kuwaiti newspaper, Al-Watan, warns against turning Lebanon into another Vietnam. It says that the attack on the Marines means a strong rejection of their presence in war-torn Lebanon and that they should thus leave that country.

In Qatar, Al-Raya says that the Beirut explosions could be the start of a prolonged series of violent actions in Lebanon, at a time when all efforts are being made to convene the national reconciliation conference.

Violence and blood

The paper remarks that in their attempts to strengthen their negotiating positions, the Lebanese factions may resort to violence and carry out bloody actions.

"The party responsible for the explosions is the same one that has an interest in maintaining the Lebanese strife and pushing foreign forces into direct intervention," the paper writes.

Ad-Dustour daily in Amman points out that a deeper search into the Middle East basics leads us to pinpoint Israel as the real culprit behind Sunday's attacks.

"Israel has not necessarily planned and carried out the killing, but its actions and its position as a major factor of instability in the region have set the ground for such killing and destruction," Ad-Dustour asserts.

LEBANESE newspapers also reflect a pessimistic view of the possible outcome of the reconciliation conference which is due to convene in Geneva.

An-Nahar daily envisages the division of Lebanon into cantons linked by a confederation, similar to the system currently applied in Switzerland.

Al-Anwar wonders if the Geneva meeting will be a ceremonial gathering which masks the real game — called by some division into cantons, and by others the splitting of Lebanon among regional powers.

"Will the Lebanese who are going to Geneva face reality and become a united team confronting regional and international powers displeased with the idea of renewing Lebanon to independence and sovereignty?" the paper asks.

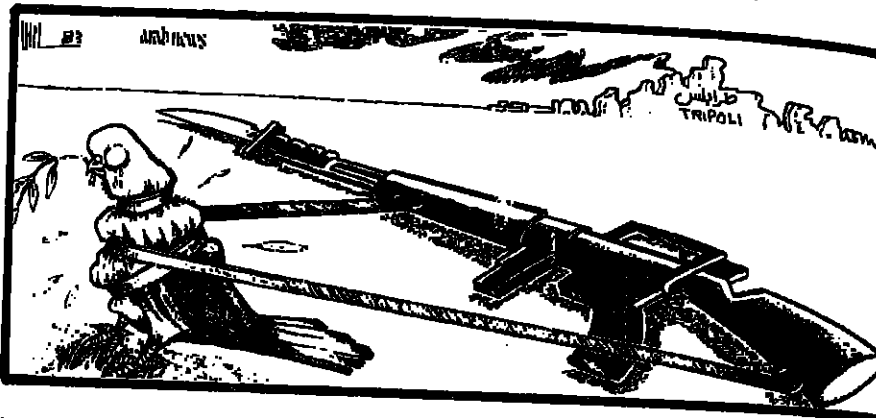
Another newspaper, Al-Nida'a, remarks that those who voice scepticism about the dialogue believe that the Lebanese will not be allowed to tackle their problem and submit solutions except within certain limits. These will not affect the linkage of the crisis with that of the Middle East, and to be more specific, with Syrian and Israeli interests.

'Ignoring the occupation'

Al-Safir, another Lebanese paper, writes that the real problem is that the Lebanese (or at least some of them) are deliberately ignoring the Israeli occupation while being fully engaged with details of local disputes. It adds that Israel must be very pleased to see that the goals of its invasion are being realized by hands and blood other than those of its soldiers.

The Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram stresses the need to separate the Palestinian question from the Lebanese crisis, saying that finding a solution to the Palestinian question will reflect positively on efforts to resolve the Lebanese situation.

"The bases of a solution for the Palestinian question are clear, while the Lebanese crisis is not," it says.



banese crisis, in the light of the present conditions, needs a great deal of dialogue, research and agreement before it can be resolved," notes Al-Ahram.

It concludes by calling for an intense international campaign to salvage the Palestinian question from oblivion as a result of the successive crises befalling the Middle East, adding that the search for a solution to the Palestinian problem must be separated from other issues.

The newspaper Al-Khaleej of Sharjah emirate lashes out at President Reagan's remarks on the Middle East last week, and describes them as an offense against the whole Arab nation.

"Instead of speaking about Greater Syria, the US president should have mentioned the Israeli attempt to create 'Greater Israel' which the US is promoting through massive military and economic aid."

Kuwait's Al-Ra'i Al-Aam questions the sincerity of the US administration in forwarding a new Middle East initiative which was said to have come under discussion at a US National Security Council meeting called by President Reagan.

The paper remarks that until recently, the US had held that the only initiative it was promoting is President Reagan's Middle East peace plan. That plan, it says, is dead because it falls short of the minimum requirements acceptable to the Palestinian people.

"President Reagan's plan was dealt a fatal blow by the United States itself when it used the veto against a UN Security Council resolution condemning Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza," asserts the Kuwaiti paper.

Al-Itihad newspaper of Abu Dhabi writes that the major mistake of US policy in the Middle East is its concentration on the Soviet "threat" to the area while ignoring the Israeli danger. It says this US policy has not changed since the 1950s, as Washington has continued to view the Middle East from the angle of the Soviet threat while ignoring the Arabs' legitimate aspirations for unity and liberation.

Israeli press

In Israel, Kol Ha'Ir newspaper says that Premier Shamir completed his first week in office with an apparent weakness. He did not succeed in putting out the fire started by (former Finance Minister Yoram) Aridor, and imposed a new finance minister on the coalition.

The newly appointed finance minister follows a different policy from that of his predecessor. "The appointment of Orgad as finance minister will only reinforce the militant elements within the government concerning the future of the occupied territories," it says.

With Mr. Shamir as premier, Mr. Arens as defence minister and Mr. Orgad as finance minister, the Israeli government will be following a path of absolute political intransigence, the paper predicts.

Davar adds that while the Israeli economy is choking, the Israeli government is suffering from an internal crisis regarding Mr. Shamir's decision to appoint a new finance minister.

Names of candidates for the post were deleted without being examined on the basis of qualifications, but according to their popularity among the coalition elements, Yoram Weizman's name was deleted without questions asked about

whether he is suitable for the post or about his political line.

Internal disputes with the Liberals led Mr. Shamir to choose Mr. Orgad as finance minister because he is closer to Mr. Shamir's hawkish attitude, Davar says.

"This is only the beginning of the new Likud government which has recorded seven days of failure. It is not important who occupies the post of finance minister, but it is important to understand that such a government has no moral authority to continue to function," the paper asserts.

Haolam Hazeh, in a "Warning to the Government," says the success of the Histadrut labour federation's strike stemmed primarily from workers' understanding that labour cannot stand still while further taxes are being imposed.

"Workers look upon the Histadrut to lead them in their struggle. This is the test ground for the leadership of the Histadrut, whereby it can prove its validity through continuous struggle and by not yielding to false temptations of taking part in the implementation of the government's policy."

Al-Hamishmar, however, says the present Israeli government will be taken to think that the current crisis is economical and can be treated with economic measures. A retreat from the shekel (the Israeli currency) represents a drastic destruction of the roots of the Israeli society, the paper writes. "We have transformed from a producing nation to impoverished people, from masters to slaves, from unified to divided people, and from confident to terrified people."

A triple-digit inflation rate could not last for long among unified and producing nations, it says. Inflation prospered year after year on the grounds of corruption, under the Likud government.

Haaretz, also in Israel, speaks of "unprecedented intervention" in the stock exchange by the government. This, it says, "explains fears of a decrease of prices to a point where speculators will find it profitable to purchase cheap goods. Others say that the real justification is the desire to prevent the spreading of unrest among the public."

In the wake of the crisis in confidence, Haaretz writes, it is reasonable to suppose that the majority of the 600,000 investors will decide to get rid of bank stocks at any reasonable price. It predicts either a general 40 per cent price drop, or a situation in which prices are supported at an unreasonable level, in which case "all the country's all minting machines will not be able to mint enough cash" for their purchase.

On the Lebanon occupation, Haaretz says that withdrawal to the Aali River line did not solve the problem of Israeli casualties in Lebanon. The reality is proved that all territories are hostile to Israel throughout the south of Lebanon, Serail throughout the south of Lebanon, and there are no way to prevent casualties among Israeli troops in Lebanon and they explain the existence of troops in Lebanon as a security requirement.

Even after our troops return from Lebanon, there will be someone to say that we should have a military presence there. Those who talk about the fruits of war ignore the fact that those fruits have rotted long ago, and there is nothing left of the promises connected with a contractual peace."

Third World villages' drinking water, insanitation problems — a typical Indian village —

UN launches programme for drinking water

By Sumi Krishna Chauhan

LONDON — The United Nations' World Water Decade, launched three years ago, adopted the slogan: "Clean drinking water and adequate sanitation for all by 1990."

The Decade has focussed international attention on people's need for water and sanitation. But the men and women who must implement the Decade's goals throughout the million villages of the Third World are beginning to wonder if the exercise matches the aspirations of the villagers themselves.

The Decade is based on the premise that clean water and adequate sanitation are basic human needs which can be achieved through simple, cost-effective technologies. Health would be improved. The time women and children spend collecting

In crowded Guruvajapalayam, people say that going into the fields to defecate is



Children anxiously wait for free midday meal.

a nuisance, especially for the women (as they must go in darkness out of sight). But the women themselves see improved sanitation as a luxury, not a basic need. In Vellakal, with its scattered houses, the villagers are not troubled by the absence of latrines.

Guruvajapalayam has more water sources and better access to medical facilities than Vellakal; thus, given the logic of the Decade, should be healthier. But health conditions in Guruvajapalayam — especially for the poorest — appear much worse than in Vellakal. Caste distinctions are stronger in Guruvajapalayam, with the lower castes living furthest from the overhead tank which supplies the public taps, and in the summer their taps run dry first.

In Vellakal, caste distinctions are less marked. The poorest villagers may have a lower income than their counterparts in Guruvajapalayam, but most have at least a small garden plot and a more nutritious diet. Because Vellakal is isolated and less crowded, it is cleaner. These factors help make Vellakal the healthier village.

Hygiene neglected

In Guruvajapalayam, poor drainage and garbage disposal contribute to the unhealthy conditions. But planners tend to equate improved sanitation with more latrines. Latrines are adult size and cannot be used by those who need them most — young children, who must either wait for someone to escort them into the forest or simply use the nearest roadside to defecate.

There are government subsidies to build latrines, but other cheap and simple aids to hygiene are neglected. Hardly anyone in either village can afford shoes, for instance, and there are no subsidies to provide them. But many people suffer from hookworm, which is contracted by walking barefoot on moist soil.

No technology is "cost-effective" unless villagers think they need it. Chlorination is one of the simplest ways of purifying well water. But people in Guruvajapalayam consider it complicated because chlorine is not always available, calculating the amount needed for each well is tedious and the water does not taste good.

However, the more sophisticated technology of electric borewell pumps is easily handled in both villages. Many Vellakal families organise their lives around the timings of electricity supply, which in summer means that both irrigation and domestic chores are done at night.



Thirsty school children drinks water — unaware of its cleanliness

Both globally, and at the village level, many half-truths persist. Many villagers believe that water which looks, tastes and smells good is clean. Many planners believe that the number of water taps is a good indication of community health.

Poor villagers have their own perceptions of basic human needs, and of the benefits of improved water supply and sanitation. Administrators, however, are

forced by the very nature of a UN campaign such as the Water Decade to simplify, unify and generalise, and thus to perpetuate myths that may have little basis in the reality of village life.

In Guruvajapalayam, Vellakal and a million other villages, development does not come in Decades.

(Earthscan)

East Berlin signals better relations with West

By Tony Catterall

COLOGNE — The acknowledgement by East Germany that its dismantling all of the automatic firing devices on its border with West Germany is the long-awaited clear signal of the East's desire for better relations between the two States.

In this case, words speak louder than actions, especially words uttered for the public record. It was not enough that East German border guards were seen removing some of the firing devices — which shoot out shrapnel after being activated by a trip-wire — or that private assurances had been given.

What counts is that the East Berlin leader, Erich Honecker, has admitted that the devices exist and that they are all being dismantled. It is the first time the East German public has officially heard of their existence.

Honecker was careful not to deny reports that some improved self-firing weapons had been installed further back from the border. He merely dismissed them as "speculation," leaving himself a face-saving way out if the reports are confirmed.

In any case, it is a purely symbolic gesture: the shrapnel sprayers were ineffective, the border is still heavily mined on the East German side, and the guards still have their orders to shoot to kill. But at a time when the East bloc is putting heavy pressure on West Germany over the planned deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles, gestures have their significance.

If Honecker is as clever as he usually is, he will delay any such request until the missile deployment time, pointing out to Moscow his need of the money — and that he has no chance of getting it if relations with Bonn deteriorate.

(London Observer Service)

education

Professors push for Arabic textbooks

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

EIGHTY JORDANIAN professors recently submitted a petition to the Jordan Academy of Arabic (JAA) calling for the Arabizing of teaching at Jordanian universities.

Dr. Issa Al-Naouri, JAA general secretary, said that the professors intend to form field committees in every university to recommend books to be translated and to supervise the evaluation of translated books. They have also urged the JAA to publish books already translated.

Dr. Naouri said the JAA is the only academy in the Arab world which has undertaken a campaign to Arabize higher scientific instruction. When it asked to teachers from Yarmouk to evaluate the first phase of their work with the university it became clear that Arabization was an urgent matter for students.

The majority of students say they would prefer to study sciences in Arabic because they can absorb the subject matter better and do not need to refer to dictionaries. They also find it much easier to discuss subjects with the lecturers in Arabic as the lecturers are often unable to explain problems clearly in English.

To date the JAA has translated first and second year textbooks for chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics and geology and they are now working on third year books.

They have presented specimen copies of the works translated to all the universi-

ties in the Arab world together with letters explaining the aims of their Arabization campaign in the hope that they will use the JAA textbooks in their own teaching programmes.

Dr. Naouri said that apart from its work with the university textbooks, the JAA is involved in a wide range of activities to preserve the Arabic language and to develop it in order to keep pace with the requirements of modern literature, science and the arts.

The academy tries to initiate studies and research work related to Arabic, and to encourage the writing of books and the translation of major works into, and from, Arabic. It also arranges language conferences and arranges seminars and publishes new Arabic terms which have been agreed by the Arab world in such fields as meteorology, transport, engineering and military terminology.

The JAA has been active in campaigning against the use of foreign names by companies and institutions and their use in public places. It has held discussions with the Ministry of Information with a view to setting up regular training courses for radio and television announcers and producers to improve their Arabic. It has also met with representatives of the Ministry of Education to exchange views on the best methods to improve the teaching of Arabic in schools.

The academy, which currently has 14 active members, 20 honorary members and 61 supporting members, also publishes a periodical, the Journal of the Jordan Academy of Arabic.

American academics develop a Middle Eastern interest

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

THE AMERICAN academic world's growing interest in the Arabs and the Middle East can be seen from the number of the doctoral dissertations on these subjects presented by Americans during the last decade, according to Professor George Atiyeh, Head of the Near Eastern Section of the Library of Congress in Washington, who gave a lecture at the American Centre last Thursday.

The second volume of the recently published bibliography, "American Doctoral Dissertations on the Arab World", lists 1245 dissertations done in the years between 1975-1981. They were written mainly by American scholars, Professor Atiyeh said, as most Arab students in the United States are studying sciences.

He said that the first volume of the bibliography, which lists 1100 dissertations, covers the years from 1881, when the first American doctoral dissertation on the Arab world was presented to 1974.

Because these bibliographies are comprehensive there is a great demand for them by both the American and Arab public, he said.

The Near East Section of the Library of Congress has also been quite active in publishing other bibliographies such as "The Arabs in the United States", which was compiled in connection with a conference on Arab-American literature held on the occasion of the centenary of Lebanese writer Gibran Khalil Gibran.

At present Professor Atiyeh, along with the Middle East Library Association, which consists of 25 American centres that deal with Middle Eastern studies, is involved in a project to microfilm their vertical files. Material such as pamphlets, booklets and certain ephemeral material which is not suitable for cataloguing is being collected for microfilming. "You can find much useful material in such things and they do sometimes become primary resources," he said. Professor Atiyeh mentioned that he has personally collected much of this type of material about the Lebanese war and the Israeli occupation. "They are only pamphlets, but I'm quite sure that they aren't catalogued and therefore not known. If such things are microfilmed, they'd become available at all libraries for researchers to use," he said.

The Library of Congress itself has over 20 million volumes as well as 60 million maps, microfilms and manuscripts. The Middle Eastern Section of the library has over 200,000 catalogued books as well as 120,000 in Arabic and 30,000 in Persian. Professor Atiyeh said the library offers a variety of services to its users. Academics, who usually know their way around and know what they want, are provided with desks if their research is to last longer than three months. Students specializing in Middle Eastern studies come to the library when they cannot find the needed material in their own university libraries. Those who do not know how to use the library are given instruction in how to use the catalogues and computers to search for books and other material.

arts



Northern Sahara, Mexico, Yugoslavia, China, Greece, Tunisia and Czechoslovakia are just some of the countries represented by the Aman Folk Ensemble

Aman folk troupe spans the world

IF YOUR idea of an American folk dance group is square dancing and fiddle music, the Aman Folk Ensemble, which will be performing at the Royal Cultural Centre this week, should come as quite a surprise. The Los Angeles based ensemble specializes in a wide repertoire that ranges from a North African combat dance to honey Balkan kolos and Appalachian clogging.

A typical programme begins with a Bulgarian spring ritual, moves on to a dance from Samarkand, to a Romanian dance, then to the Kathak, one of the great classical dances of India, returns to Europe for a Hungarian dance, moves on to the Eastern Sahara, to Irish dancing and finishes up

with an Appalachian hoedown. Just reading the list leaves one a little breathless!

The Aman company was founded in 1964 with the aim of preserving and presenting the multi-cultural heritage. The company's dancers, singers and musicians perform in magnificent costumes and use the authentic instruments of the various ethnic groups whose dances they perform.

The group's founder is Leona Wood. Ms. Wood had ambitions to be a ballerina but decided she was too tall and turned to painting instead.

She retained an interest in dance, however, and especially in ethnic dance which she had first encountered as a child when an Armenian pianist taught her some dances from the Caucasus.

In the late fifties Ms. Wood began working at the Institute of Ethnomusicology at the University of California at Los Angeles. She came in contact with many foreign students and says "All of them were just too anxious to teach the dances they had performed in their own country, or in their own village."

In 1964 she merged her own group with another folk group, the Village Dancers, and the Aman Folk Ensemble was established.

Ms. Wood says she has no special formula for adapting ethnic dance to

the stage. She says "What we are doing is very much like a cut film, taking what is going to be accessible to the audience."

Company choreographers make numerous extended trips to study the countries and dance cultures they present on stage.

The Aman Folk Ensemble will give three performances at the Royal Cultural Centre on 28, 29 and 30 October at 8.00 pm and a concert for school children on Saturday 29 October at 10.30 am. They will also meet local dancers at the Royal Cultural Centre on Sunday 30 October at 4.00 pm.

Kampuchean refugees show the way

By Mila Swaminathan

A UNIQUE educational experiment is under way among the thousands of Kampuchean refugees who have fled from their war-torn land, and are in camps in Thailand. Undaunted by the lack of teachers, textbooks, schoolrooms and desks, the refugees have devised their own teaching programme for their children.

Since 1978 several refugee camps have been set up along the border with Thailand for the people pouring out of neighbouring Kampuchea. International voluntary agencies and United Nations organisations are sharing the responsibility for relief and resettlement. Thousands have passed through these camps, and the end is not yet in sight.

One of these camps is the Khao I Dang Holiday Centre, with 40,000 refugees, in the midst of scrub country. Today, it appears to be well-organised and spotlessly clean with rows of simple wood and bamboo hutments, and a busy community. But it was not always so.

In the early days the relief agencies faced a multitude of problems: a flood of people and no facilities. Some volunteers recognised early that the refugees would have to be involved not only in physically setting up the camps, but also in developing the services they needed.

Self-help

Self-help committees were set up to draw upon the people's skills and to restore a feeling of dignity. The question of schools soon arose, and so began the attempt to set up Khmer schools for the Khmer children.

The Khmer are the largest ethnic group in Kampuchea. In appearance they are more like people of the Indian sub-continent than of Indo-China, or Thailand, and their phonetic language is based on Sanskrit. The Khmer children needed to be taught in their own language, but there were few educated people and most of them were too illiterate to teach. Eventually volunteers were found, but there were no textbooks, schoolrooms or furniture. And the "teachers" had no idea how to set about teaching.

The volunteers faced the challenge of creating teachers, materials and a curriculum out of nothing: they explored the meagre resources of the local environment, and brought people together in workshops to discover their own skills.

The "teachers" began to recognise that the children were abnormally depressed and deprived. They had to begin with concrete, physical activities in which the children could participate, before attempting to teach them the alphabet. Using their practically acquired psychological insights, the "teachers" devised a way to form the letters through bodily movements, ordinary activities and objects. The resulting sequence in which the alphabet was introduced was quite different from the traditional order.

Own materials

Next, they developed their own educational materials by using bamboos, sticks and even the children's own bodies: hands, legs and fingers were used for counting; sticks and stones for adding. Stories, songs and dances, group exercises and the daily routine of the camp became part of the children's education. And so a curriculum was born.

In the meantime, the committees began building simple huts for schools, furnishing them with reed mats to sit on. The authorities supplied materials for shelves and blackboards.

Emboldened by the experience, the workshop groups began to develop a series of language readers and number workbooks in the Khmer language. Within a few months the teachers had written and illustrated books for the first two grades. International agencies provided some funds, and the books were printed. Today, three years later the programme is being duplicated in several refugee camps.

The first batch was trained through a process of exploration and experiment, but the others have a "teachers' handbook" to work from. The teachers' courses now last from six weeks to two months, and sometimes even up to six months. Some of the trainees have had some experience of teaching at the camps, others are quite new to the job.



Kampuchean refugees: discovering their own skills

But the uncertainties of camp life cause several problems. The educated people are the first to find jobs outside and leave the camp. So no sooner has a batch of "teachers" been trained than the organisers have to start afresh with a new group. As the most talented people are absorbed elsewhere, the "teachers" are becoming less skilled.

The method of training teachers, which the refugees camps have developed, is not new in education. But it is probably unparalleled in Asia.

Village schools all over Asia suffer from a lack of trained teachers, educational materials and funds. For most Asian educationists, the process of "learning by doing" has been just a set of words, mouthed for decades, but rarely put into practice. Yet, in the Kampuchean refugee camps, despite the conditions of extreme poverty and deprivation, all the common problems have been triumphantly overcome. This makes the experiment unique. (Earthwatch)



Gaetano Fabris with one of his scenes of Jordanian life

Italian artist works in Zarqa

A WIDELY travelled artist Gaetano Fabris has made a second trip to Amman bringing with him samples of his work from Italy which he is currently exhibiting at the Alia Art Gallery.

Gaetano was invited here from his native Treviso near Venice by Mansour Sabab, a local Catholic parish priest, to paint new pictures to decorate his church.

In the grand Rococo style of famous masters of ceiling frescos and church decorations all over the world as far afield as Australia, America and Brazil, his exhibition at the Alia Gallery shows a relaxed taste for the secular and the bucolic and includes popular scenes of Jordanian life as well as decorative studies of Italian landscapes. (V.B)

Painter follows old path

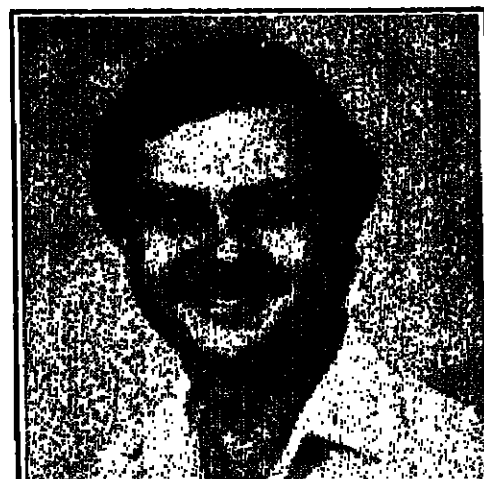
By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to the Star

OMAR, HAMDAN Shahwan is a compelling and thoughtful artist but, disappointingly, his current exhibition at the French Cultural Centre on Jabal Luweibdeh seems to be a regurgitation of old ideas and shows no new direction of style. The exhibition, padded out with pencil sketches and dramatic, shadowy portraits, offers another series of motion packed tableaux of floating islands of colour.

Omar searched through cubism, impressionism and futurism to arrive at his present interpretations. The futurists, fired with enthusiasm for the new, mechanical world they saw around them, took the cubist premise of flattening the three dimensional world onto a two dimensional canvas and injected the images with speed, movement and frenzy.

Omar uses the technique but not the theme. Unlike the futurists he acknowledges the supremacy of nature over man-made architecture. The relationship of destructive nature and architecture in harmony and disharmony is reviewed time and time again. He demonstrates the imbalance with large areas of solid colour and jumbles of brittle, spiky black lines.

Sedate chunks of white and pastel shades tread calmly over the surface, accommodating each other and moving with the force of a slow avalanche. Everything is pulling and moving like restless nature itself. Motion is there in the energy of the brushstroke and in the composition, fluid, straining across the canvas or collapsing into a bottomless centre pulled by a centrifugal force of colour.



Omar Hamdan Shahwan

Essentially all paintings are a flat surface covered by colour but Omar enlarges this elemental feature into a language that swamps form and space. With white dominating, veiling an opaque world, he creates silent, shattering atmospheres and luminous landscapes whilst transmitting ideas.

He bends geometric blocks into more pliable muscles of colour, increasing their emotional potency — areas of colour in Le Christ sag despondently like the subject — and thereby successfully combines strands of the techniques he courted.

There is no indication however that he can go further with this experiment and in fact having taken a path away from established modes of painting may have led him into an artistic out of de sac, for other work on show is all safely academic.



Welch children watch progress on their new centre



At Hai Nazzal the children have come to know the pleasures of the library

Community centres win acceptance

By Fadia Faghr
Special to the Star

WHEN UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN students started work on the Hai Nazzal Community Centre in 1974 the neighbourhood's response was cruel. The community fought us out of us. They didn't know what we were aiming to do. They stoned us, ridiculed us, blocked our cars from getting to the working site and attacked physically," says Dr. Sari Nasser, professor of sociology at the University, and founder of the Hai Nazzal object.

Today the community of Hai Nazzal is co-operative, the centre is bustling with purposeful activity and soon a "sister-nire" in Suweileh will open its doors to the community.

"Many of our children are deprived of educational, entertainment and cultural nres," says Dr. Nasser.

"According to our observations, the children in deprived areas live overcrowded houses and go to overcrowded schools, which places a great pressure on them. They are at least, neglected. They have no safe places in which to play. The children give vent to their feelings of hatred and bitterness by committing various aggressive acts endangering their lives in

in building the Hai Nazzal Community Centre which now consists of four buildings: an office, children's library, clinic and a women's activities room and general purpose room. Outside, children enjoy a playground, and open-air theatre, a basketball court, a garden and an aviary.

The centre offers literacy classes, sewing, lectures on educational and health topics for women, library hour for children, out-door games, theatre, scouting and free supplementary lessons in school subjects.

Queues

According to a study carried out by Miss Firyal Saleh, director of Hai Nazzal Community Centre, the average number of children per family is nine. "Last summer, it was impossible to accommodate all the children in the centre, so I had to close the doors, get the children to queue and arrange shifts," Miss Firyal said.

"We established a co-operative society for neighbourhood women. They embroider cotton, silk etc. Then, we hold exhibitions of their work in order to sell it. Profits are distributed among the women according to the number of their shares. One hardworking lady was able to cover the expenses of her son's education in Germany, he graduated and she was given a thank you-present by the centre," she added.

Day to day maintenance at Hai Nazzal is done by the children. They clean the buildings, the aviary and the garden. They also water the plants and trees, feed the birds with the help of the guard and paint in the marker stones in the garden.

"The most popular activity among the children is going to visit the aviary to see some of the birds. I have read about to them. We try to eliminate the sense of hostility between children and animals," said Miss Na'ima Jabor, the librarian at the centre.

Poor readers

"Unfortunately, many students of the 5th and 6th grade don't know how to read, and after contacting the schools, we found out that the reason behind that is overcrowded classes. The teachers cannot pay attention to each individual student in for example, a 55 student class," she added.

Ilham, a 12-year old child, said, "I came to Hai Nazzal when I was six years old to talk with university student and make them laugh as they looked so exhausted. Then, I started to help them in carrying stones, concrete, etc. because they read stories to me. As a girl guide, I now come regularly to the centre to read, participate and help in organizing activities."

"All my children are playing safely in front of me away from cars and dangerous roads while I am waiting for the doctor of the centre to come," said a lady who was sitting in the centre's playground. The doctor is a member of the neighbourhood community who offers his services free of charge.



Women at Hai Nazzal

In 1981, the construction began on a similar community centre at Suweileh. Students of the University of Jordan's Department of Sociology are establishing, on a four-dunum tract of land donated by Suweileh Municipality, a JD 45,000 project which is being financed through voluntary contributions. The proposed community centre will consist of a medical clinic, a 100-seat theatre, centres for teaching sewing and typing. The children's library will be opened within a month to offer services to Suweileh children in return for their participation in completing the construction of the centre.

Student role

Just now the eastern neighbourhood of Suweileh is bustling with activity. University students, residents of the neighbourhood and Hai Nazzal children are working hand in hand to finish the new centre.

Student, Fayrouz Zua'bi, said, "We are doing this work as part of a course called Development and Organization of Society. The student spends six hours per week plus holidays and weekends working on the project. He learns how to be independent and how to co-operate with others. I feel a great sense of achievement and belonging because I am doing something for our children."

Hussein Hassanein, a graduate of Jordan University's Department of Sociology, said to The Star, as he worked at surfacing the walls with concrete, "I took this course in 1977, and I participated in constructing Hai Nazzal. I was so fascinated by the idea, that I spent all my free time working there. As a result, I have learnt many skills such as surfacing concrete, tiling and painting."

"There is no difference between Jordan and Oman," says Abdullah Al-Hassan, an Omani student at the University of Jordan, "voluntary projects try to fill the

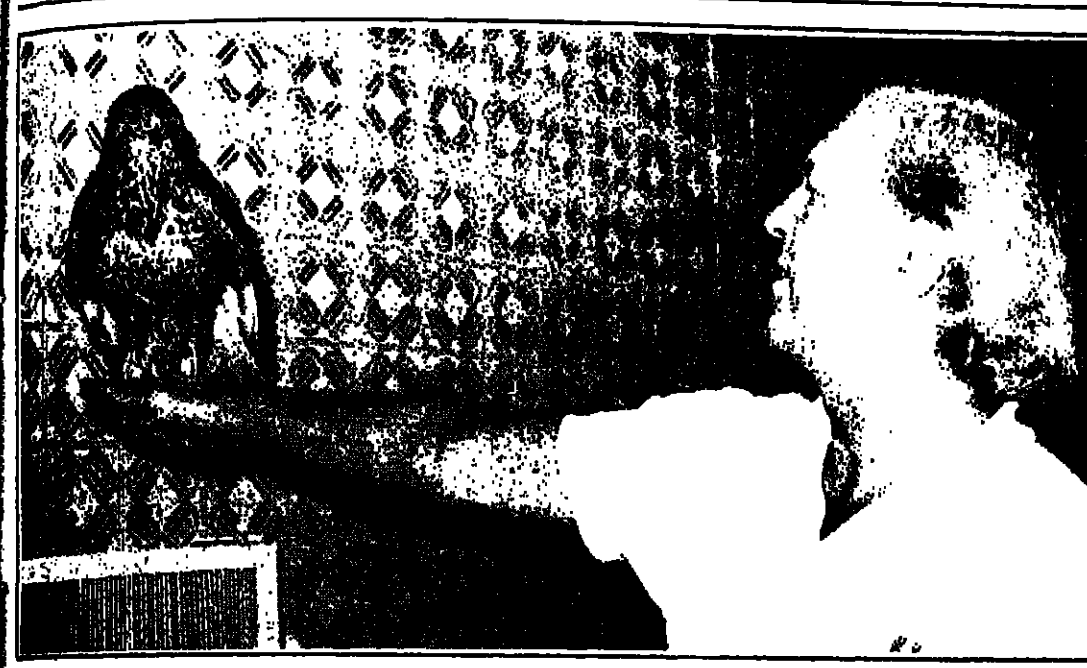
gap existing in societies. This centre will accommodate children roaming in the streets and help in detecting and polishing their talents."

Work is worship

Students working in the project agreed that field work teaches them how to face problems and tackle them, and that to feel alive it is essential to be active and productive. "In our tradition they say 'work is worship', but it is very important to realize that we as people have not been socialized into productive work. We have been socialized to sit back and depend on others. We want to install in the child, the community and student a sense of the need to be productive and to respect both work and time. Working people are healthier in attitude and outlook," says Dr. Nasser.

"We always tell our students not to wait for others to do things for them. We must not just depend on the family or the school, we must take the initiative ourselves in doing things for ourselves. As far as governments are concerned, Arabs in general have tended to depend for a long time on governments to do things for them. They must stop doing so. We can bring governments around to help us if we take the initiative and shoulder responsibilities."

"If we can help the children of today who roam the streets, and persuade them to come to the centres and to take part in the activities which the centres offer, we are in one way or another changing the future or at least influencing it. We insist that society must take more care and pay more attention to the status and role of the child in society. So far, our children have been mistreated. They are mistreated by the family, at the school and out in the streets. We must also work closely with the mother because she has so much to do with the socialization of the child," Dr. Nasser says.



Alfred Klindwort III with one of his avian friends

A tale of three Alfreds

By Osama El-Sherif
Star Staff Writer

ALFRED KLINDWORT III is proud of two traditions that have passed from one generation of his family to another: the name Alfred and the business of pharmacy. Although he despised pharmacy a long time ago, he is still serious about the name Alfred. He is so serious that he gave the name to two birds: Alfred V and Alfred VI.

But this is only the beginning in the story of the unique life of Alfred III. The two birds are wild Arabian falcons and their residence is at Mr Klindwort's apartment in the Amman suburb of Shmeisani.

Alfred V is no longer staying in Mr Klindwort's kitchen. He was freed some weeks ago after Mr Klindwort decided that he was fit to face his environment again. Soon after, Mr Klindwort obtained Alfred VI and a female falcon, whom he called Foofoo.

"I care for animals and I cannot bear to see them hurt," Mr Klindwort says.

"I saved Alfred V half a year ago from bedouin children who were torturing him. I took care of him and he got used to me." The bird was so close to his owner that Mr Klindwort did not have to use gloves to handle it.

Alfred VI was also in trouble when Mr Klindwort took him in. The Birds' Garden administration had no place for him. "I was afraid that he would not receive good attention and they were happy to get rid of him," he says. Foofoo was also saved by Mr Klindwort. Her previous owner was a roving Lebanese journalist who took the female falcon with her in a bag whenever she travelled. "She told me that the falcon was a gift to her from the PLO in Lebanon."

Mr Klindwort is not an expert on falcons. He doesn't know if Foofoo is really a female or what kind of falcons he has. His motives, he says, were to save the birds from a cruel life. He intends to free Alfred VI and Foofoo soon, the same way he did with Alfred V.

"When I decided to let Alfred V go, I had to find the

right place to do so," Mr Klindwort says. "I drove to Qaser Al-Mushatta (the ancient desert castle of the Umayyads), where I found another falcon living in that area. I inspected the surroundings and found snakes and lizards, which Alfred can live on." The big test for both Alfreds was the parting moment. "He flew away all right, but always kept coming close to me when I went there a day later." Finally, on the fourth day Alfred V refused to take the usual piece of red meat Mr Klindwort offered him.

"He looked at me and I whistled, but he flew away, I never saw him again. He freed himself from us."

Mr Klindwort's kitchen looks rather disorderly. It contains a big box full of dirt acting as the birds' sandbox, a big cage where the falcons spend their nights and, of course, the two birds. "My friends think I am not normal, but accept it as a part of my character," he says.

The birds eat once a day. Their meal never changes — always fresh red meat — but sometimes Alfred III surprises them choice steaks, fresh from the butcher. Foofoo never eats when Alfred VI is eating. He always leaves something for her, and they have an excellent relationship."

Mr Klindwort, 51, lives by himself and although he has been married twice he has no children. "I have always felt for animals," he says. "My father was a great hunter and he used to insist on taking me with him on his hunting-trips in the Hamburg area. But I never accepted that and I thought it was a weakness in me."

But Mr Klindwort worries about his birds. Alfred VI is too close to people and has probably forgotten how to cope with the desert life. Foofoo has a problem in her wings, which might hinder her flight. "So I don't know what to do. I might contact some experts on falcons in Bahrain and seek their advice or find them new homes," he says. "I saved them once and I must do this once again."



Alfred VI rests comfortably on Alfred III's hand



All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

Midnight encounter

HAS THIS ever happened to you? You have worked hard all day and then come home to finish tasks around the house. Now you managed to do everything that you planned that day and you are looking forward to a justly deserved good night's rest. You tuck yourself under the covers of your bed, turn off the light and close your eyes. You give a big sigh and your body goes deliciously limp under the warmth of the blankets. Sweet sleep slips up and you sense yourself surrendering to drowsiness.

Wait a minute. What is that you hear? A faint humming? A far-away buzz? Your muscles tense involuntarily. Yes, it is coming nearer. You can definitely hear it now. "e---e---e-eeeee"

Oh, no, you think, not that. You pull the sheets up over your face leaving only your nose out so that you can still breathe and hope that you will not be noticed. As you wait in utter silence you hear the clock ticking on the bedside stand. It ticks once every second. You count as you hear the sound approaching... eighteen, nineteen, twenty. "EEEEEE-EE"

The sound stops. What is that light feathery sensation on the end of your nose? That very subtle slight pricking? Your hands thrash back and forth over your face. "Eee-e-e-e---e" It went away. Good. Now back to sleep.

Thirty seconds later you realise that leaving your nose exposed gives your attacker something to aim at so you draw the sheet entirely over your face. But soon your oxygen supply under the blankets is depleted. You flap the sheet up and down a bit to renew the air pocket but when you have tucked in all the edges of your sheet under the pillow you hear an even louder "BBBZZZ" in your ear. It's in there with you.

You leap from the bed, flick on the light and dash off to the kitchen to find the can of insect spray, mumbling unprintable phrases about how much you just paid last month to have all the screens in the house done. When you get back your tormentor is clinging defiantly to the wall.

You blast her with the full force of this deadly preparation and watch to see her fall to the floor. But she doesn't. She flies-off-to-do three barrel-rolls and then lands on the curtain. You try to spray her again but the can falls because it is now empty. You didn't buy another one. You figured that the summer was over and you wouldn't have this problem anymore. But this predator is a survivor on whom the cold weather has no effect. You have to go after her yourself — hand-to-hand combat.

Slipper in hand, you charge forward and take a mighty swing at the curtain. The curtain rod gives way and falls on your bare toe. Your eyes mist over with pain as you hobble to the edge of the bed, sit down and massage your injury.

Just as you are hanging your head in despair of ever getting to sleep you notice the tiniest bit of brownish fluff two inches from your throbbing digit. It's that insect trying to bleed herself into the carpeting.

You lift your heel and bring it down steadily, swiftly, relentlessly. Squash! No more mosquito. You bounce into your bed triumphantly and turn out the light.

"e---e---e" Here comes her sister.

Would you believe it?

A GOVERNMENT-AIDED art college, in New Delhi, is reported to be facing closure of its life classes because the only model available is tired of neck ache caused by long hours.

The college needs at least five models every day for its painting, sculpture and applied art classes — and the one model had to be like a statue for hours on end.

The college has raised its rate for models to up to US 40 cents an hour, but even beggar women, invited to pose, have refused saying they could make more outside.

BUNGLING BRITISH burglar John Markham, 24, got home from rifling a shoe shop to find his haul consisted almost entirely of left-footed shoes.

And police who questioned him about another break-in spotted that one of the shoes he was wearing still had the price tag on, a London court was told.

Markham was so incompetent he cut his hand smashing a car window to steal some clothes and left a trail of blood for police to follow to his home.

He was jailed for 17 months after admitting two burglaries, one attempted burglary and two thefts.

Just Between Us

Ya'qoub Salim

Dire visions

ONE THING — one among many — that arouses in me feelings of jealousy, envy and longing is the ability and capacity on the part of other writers to expand, amplify and make their written works longer by employing and using an impressive, elegant, wordy writing style.

This style and technique is something that might often come in handy to one who, like me, is required to compose and set down on paper regularly, columns, essays or compositions that are supposed to fill and take up a certain amount of space. Therefore and for that reason I admire, emulate and wish I could be like those experienced professionals who manage to use two or even three words — be they nouns, verbs or adjectives — to convey and get across a thought or idea that could be expressed in one word.

When I examine and look over my own writing style I find that my articles and columns tend to be shorter and less lengthy than those of the pros. For some incomprehensible and incredible reason which I can neither understand nor believe, something in my training has instilled in me the habit and custom of conveying the information that I want to get across as neatly and cleanly as possible under the circumstances prevailing at the time, or in any particular situation.

I have another problem. Some writers use only short sentences. These sentences have only six words. It's their style. I have also tried to do it. However, I can't. Their sentences are short. Mine are not. I don't know why.

On the other hand, many writers with whose works I am acquainted use such impressive, lengthy and well-adorned sentences that they often run over onto the next page, which is another thing that I find myself unable to do, no matter how hard I try, since my innermost self rebels against the idea of doing it, and when I sit down to write a long sentence, somehow the full-stop always comes too soon, and I just can't continue the sentence, and I am left in despair at my inability ever to write a long sentence, because of reasons which I am unaware.

Another thing makes me turn green with envy, and that's the way other writers are able to use clichés whenever they want to, making it look as easy as falling off a log. I know that in most cases the use of clichés is about as desirable as a hole in the head, but sometimes they can make a story much more colourful. That's why I see red when another writer gets away with using one, since he's obviously got the world by the tail. He's walking tall on easy street, sitting on top of the world, just hoping he doesn't kill the goose that laid the golden egg. Gee, I sure wish I knew a lot of good, colourful clichés like they do. It makes me feel like a dumb ox.

But worst of all — and this is really the chef d'oeuvre — is the way other writers sprinkle their sentences with foreign phrases to achieve a kind of suave flair. They have that certain je ne sais pas quoi — the sine qua non of the writer par excellence, that I will never be able to achieve. The thought so offends my amour propre that I am filled with dire visions of committing hara kiri. The only thing that stops me is the thought that there would be no one there to deliver the coup de grace.

Circassian school begins new building phase

Her Royal Highness Princess Alia was warmly welcomed by the members of the Circassian Organization (women's section) on Thursday when she came to lay the foundation stone for the third phase of the Circassian school.

Vice-President of the organization Mrs Nabila Al-Hasan welcomed Princess Alia and guests and told them about progress on the project.

She said the school will cost about JD 180,000 of which JD 23,000 has been raised.

Perhaps inspired by a remarkable offer by construction foreman Mufeed Youssef to donate JD 5 for per month for his lifetime, other Circassians donated generous amounts of money and construction material to help the project along.



Princess Alia and Mrs Nabila Al-Hasan meet children of the Circassian school.

Her Majesty Queen Noor opened the ten-day Arab Heritage Art Exhibition at the Marriott Hotel last Thursday. The exhibition is part of the new fund raising campaign being held by the Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped. Princess Majda accompanied the Queen as well as the Society Centre Principal Nazli Kassar and Marriott Director Mr. Haila Aguilar and wife Teresita, who are both active members of the society.

The exhibition, in which 200 laser reproductions of nineteenth century masterpieces are for sale, gathered quite a number of artists and those interested in art includes painter Diana Shamouni, National Gallery Director Suhail Bishara and Dr Ahmad Sharaf of the Department of Documentation, Libraries and National Archives.

The next fund-raising activity for the society will be a Danish fur fashion show to be also held at the Marriott on 27 October. This show will be presented along with a dinner for 275 people. There will be a second show on the afternoon of 29 October.

All these activities are to help the society cover the cost of moving into its new centre located at the Seventh Circle. Because this new centre has been designed to accommodate over twice the number of the handicapped children at the former centre, it will need more money to cover its general running costs.

Princess Majda told The Star that the new centre also needs voluntary work, most probably by sports or youth clubs, to organize the sports field which is the only one of its kind in Jordan for the handicapped, as well as to work on landscaping the school grounds. Princess Majda said that any donations no matter how big or small would be appreciated. Princess Majda also stressed that the centre, would benefit a lot if people would sponsor children annually because it costs the society around JD 500 per year to train a day patient and JD 1,000 for each boarder.

So as to get maximum use from the centre, the society is planning to add afternoon and evening classes to its programme and they are hoping that more

volunteers will come forward to help with the increased teaching load.

Led by well-known journalist Mrs. Helen Keller, a group of Swiss tourists spent a rather special two weeks in Jordan recently.

The group, 19 women and one man, dubbed Sheikh Youssef, came through a travel office which specializes in arranging in-depth tours to countries in countries in which the group is particularly interested.

So, in addition to seeing Petra, Jerash and other well-known historic and tourist sites, they visited the Jordan Valley where they were very impressed by the rapid development taking place. They also visited more arid and cultural areas and saw how hard the farmers worked.

The group was interested in the Arab world in general but had a special interest in the Palestinian problem and, as part of their tour, they visited Baq'a camp and talked to its residents.

Tour leader Mrs. Keller has been writing since she was 19 years old. She has written 10 books on the Arab world, one of them political, called "Don't Cross the Jordan", and of course dealing with the Palestinian problem. She has travelled extensively in the Arab world for the last 20 years, and has also written books on Petra and the Nabateans, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the other Arab countries.

Mrs. Keller will be leading other groups to Jordan soon, and hopefully will be writing more. Unfortunately, most Jordanians will not be able to read her books as they are in German, and she says they are not translated because many others are written in English.

Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Andre Vallon and Mrs. Vallon held a reception for the group to introduce them to some Jordanians. It was a pleasant surprise to find that at least one of them, Brigitte Obrecht, from Geneva, spoke Arabic. She is a nurse by profession, but interested in languages, and has studied Arabic as a result of her travels in the Arab countries.

Ambassador Vallon would like to encourage more Swiss tourists to Jordan, for, among other reasons, balancing the trade and economic change between the two countries. He is still singing the praises of the very successful Jordanian pavilion at the Lussembourg Fair last month.

PICTURE POINT



Zakia Qurban Hussain sent Star Kids this beautiful winning prize picture. Zakia is 8 years old and attends Al-Amana School.

Send your pictures, stories and jokes to: Star Kids, Jerusalem Star, P.O. Box 591, Amman. Children whose material is published will receive a Jerusalem Star T-shirt, so don't forget to put your name, age, school, P.O. Box number and size (small, medium or large) on the envelope.

Pussy, the winner

By Hamdan Al-Haj

Sameer and Sa'id were going to treat themselves to a piece of cheddar cheese, which they found somewhere about the kitchen. "Let us go and share it in the garden," said Sameer, "somebody might come near us here."

As they had no knife, they broke the cheese into two parts. But Sameer was not satisfied with his share, and said it was not as big as Sa'id's. Sa'id said the two pieces were quite alike and was unwilling to change. "It is a question of self-respect," he said. And as everybody knows, the question of self respect can only be settled by blows. So after they had been quarrelling with each other for a few minutes, Sameer and Sa'id came to blows. "Nobody likes to have the smaller share," Pussy said.



ODDITIES



The kiwi, or apteryx New Zealand's wingless bird.

A bird without wings!

When we see living creatures, it is never safe to trust first impressions. The penguin, for example, can swim, and can walk, but cannot fly; nevertheless it is a bird; it has wings which do not enable it to fly. There are other birds which cannot be said to be without wings exactly, but the wings are not developed. Of these "Running Birds" there are five kinds. The African ostrich; the American ostrich; the Australian emu; the cassowary — two birds which look like the ostrich but smaller than it — and the kiwi.

The kiwi, which is a New Zealand bird, has its name because of its cry. It is more properly called "apteryx," which means "without wings"; and such it is. It is a bird which can move quickly and hide itself among the ferns. The kiwi is about the size of an ordinary hen, but it lays an enormous egg. It comes out for its food in the night, and it has a long beak which enables it to strike its victim.

Why is it unable to fly? Some think that it is a very old kind of creature, surviving from the most ancient times before birds flew and it has always been without the use of wings. Others think that these birds once might have won the power to fly, and for some reason lost it again.

Sabah

Concert

The Queen Alia Society for Hearing Impaired presents The Orchestra of the Paris Festival of Chamber Music at the Royal Cultural Centre Tuesday and Wednesday 2 October at 8.00 pm.

Folk Troupe

The American Centre presents "The Aman Folk Ensemble" at the Royal Cultural Centre. Friday 28, Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 October. At 8.00pm. Schools concert Saturday 29 October at 10.30 am.

Films

The Goethe Institute presents "Muenchhausen" a 1943 film starring Brigitte Horney, Ilse Werner, Katha Haack and Leo Slezak. Wednesday 2 November at 8 pm.

The French Cultural Centre presents "A Double Tour" a 1959 film by Claude Chabrol starring Jean-Paul Belmondo, Madeleine Robinson, Bernadette Lafont and Andre Jocelyn. Friday 28, Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 October at 7.30 pm. The Centre Audiovisual Regional presents a Rene Clair film "Le Dernier Milliardaire" starring Max Dearly, Renee Saint-Cyr, Jose Noguero and Raymond Cordy. Thursday 27 October at 8.30 pm.

Fashion show

The Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped is holding two Danish Fur shows at the Marriott Hotel. Thursday 27 October and Saturday 29 October.

Exhibitions

The Al Hussein Society for Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped presents the "Arab Heritage Art Exhibition" at the Marriott Hotel. Continues until Monday 31 October. The Holiday Inn presents an exhibition of paintings by Adnan Al-Helo. Continues until Tuesday 1 November.

The Queen Alia Society for Hearing Impaired presents an exhibition of paintings by Egyptian artist Dr. Kaouf Abdel Maguid at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. Continues until Wednesday 2 November.

The Jerusalem International Media Hotel presents an exhibition of work by Ibrahim Arar. The Goethe Institute presents 32 drawings of Amman and Jordan by German artist Brigg Flade at the Regency Palace Hotel until Sunday 30 October.

The Holiday Inn presents an exhibition of photographs by Aijum Aziz and Richard Mc Hownat. Monday 31 October until Thursday 3 November.

Lectures

The American Centre of Oriental Research presents a course of lectures by Dr. Prescott Williams, entitled "An Archaeological Portrait of Babylon in the 6th century BC: Humans, Deities and their relationship." Monday and Wednesday at 6.30 pm.

sport

Sports City to have workshops To ensure the maintenance of facilities

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Special workshops are being built at Al-Hussein Sports City to ensure the regular maintenance of facilities there. The Director of the Sports City Mr. Isam Arida disclosed this in an interview with The Star.

He said the first phase of work on the workshops which cover an area of 400 square metres is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Mr. Arida stressed the need to maintain and preserve all the facilities at the Sports City at all times. He said the JD 480,000 sports palace within the complex was completed four months ago. Mr. Arida pointed out that the construction of the palace is to provide facilities for indoor sporting activities during winter.

On tennis, Mr. Arida said there are now 12 tennis courts at the Sports City. He mentioned in particular the contributions of His Majesty King Hussein towards the construction of the new tennis courts.

Talking about golf, Mr. Arida said a committee was set up a few months ago to organize the sport in the country. He added that a golf course is being established on the eastern section of the sports complex, and work on it is expected to complete soon.

Mr. Arida also spoke about efforts being made to boost other sport in Jordan. These include taekwondo and squash. He said a special hall is being built for



Isam Arida

taekwondo. The squash court is being renovated in preparation for the Asian Squash championship next year.

Mr. Arida agreed that a new sports city would be needed to meet the growing demand of the people. "I can say that Amman is in need of a new sports city to ease the problem of the increasing number of people who use the facilities at the sports city," he said.

Australia toughens sporting links

CANBERRA (AP) — The Australian government has banned individual amateur sportsmen from entering Australia as part of a review of its anti-apartheid policy.

The government announced Wednesday that it would also allow the African National Congress and the South-West Africa Peoples Organization to establish information offices, encourage visits by apartheid opponents and establish a scholarship scheme for black South Africans.

Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said the government had significantly strengthened its policy on sporting contacts in line with its total rejection of apartheid.

But the government has ended secondary boycotts that prevented English, West Indian and Sri Lankan cricketers who had played in tours of South Africa from coming to Australia.

Frenchman scales world's third highest peak

KATMANDU (AP) — A French climber who led a five-member Himalayan expedition has scaled the 8,586-metre Mount Kanchenjunga, the tourism ministry announced here Wednesday.

Pierre Beghin, 31, of Le Sepey En Chant-Reuse, reached the summit of the world's third-highest peak in northeast Nepal on 17 October. It was not immediately clear whether any other members of the team reached the peak, but the ministry said all had returned to the base camp some 5,400 metres up the mountain where they began their climb on 15 September.

November

AMMAN (Star) — The Amman Little League soccer competition enters its eighth week this weekend. The 10-week soccer league ends officially on 11 November when the cup matches will be played. In all, 20 teams are competing for honours in three different divisions — the Juniors, Mids and Seniors. There are also the Tots who are playing on non-scoring basis.

Results of the matches played on the seventh week were:

Tots	Red 1	Blue 1
Juniors	Abaha 0	Internat. Traders 3
Ericsson 3	Telcom 2	American Exp 6
Foxboro 0	Royal Falcons 1	
Mids	AIK 6	Grindlays 0
Arab Wings 2	Jordan Exp 0	ALICO 0
Al-Ahlyah 1	Astra 2	
Seniors	Cairo-Amman 3	Marriott 8
Chase Manh. 1	Holiday Inn	

League Table as at 21/10/83

Int'l Traders	PW	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Ericsson	6	5	0	11	7	11
American Exp.	6	4	0	2	9	10
Telcom	6	2	2	2	11	6
Abaha	6	2	2	2	11	6
Royal Falcons	6	1	1	4	3	6
Foxboro	6	2	2	2	4	6
Intercon	6	1	4	1	3	3
	6	0	6	0	12	0
Mids	PW	L	D	F	A	Pts.
AIK	6	4	0	2	14	5
ALICO	6	3	1	2	13	3
Volvo	6	3	1	2	10	7
Arab Wings	6	2	2	2	11	6
Jordan Exp.	6	2	3	1	11	9
Astra	6	2	3	1	11	5
Grindlays	6	2	4	0	4	4
Al-Ahlyah	6	1	5	0	6	19
Seniors	PW	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Marriott	6	6	0	0	20	5
Holiday Inn	6	3	3	0	10	5
Cairo-Amman	6	2	4	0	10	16
Chase Manh.	6	1	5	0	11	2

Fat And Fitness

It is an accepted fact that an individual builds up excess body fat as a result of eating more calories than the body is burning. Most persons, however, focus only on the "intake" side of the problem, trying to lose weight simply by restricting calories.

While this is certainly an important component in reducing total body fat, increasing the level of activity is also extremely important. Exercise does a number of things: It burns up calories, builds up the lean body mass, and some individuals report that after following a regular, vigorous exercise programme, their "taste" in food changes. They are more apt to find lower calorie/higher fibre foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, or whole grain breads and cereals, more appealing than they once did. As an added bonus, exercise can also serve as a means of "burning off" some of the tension that may lead us to overeat.

The weight control programme which is most often recommended is a judicious combination of aerobic exercise and dietary restriction. You should be striving to develop a cardiovascular fitness (aerobic exercise) programme which places you in the "good" category for cardiovascular fitness. At that point, you will be able to engage in activities which burn 8 to 14 calories per minute. In five 25 to 30 minute sessions per week, you will be "burning" approximately 1,500 calories (or about one-half pound of fat) per week.

You should also be developing an appropriate diet, based on wise food selection emphasizing fruits, vegetables and grains. It is not recommended that you implement dietary restrictions without also increasing your aerobic activity because up to 50 per cent of the weight you lose may be muscle tissue.

The accompanying chart shows the calories burned while participating in common physical activities. The figures refer to calories burned and used per minute, and they can be multiplied by the time of participation to yield the total calories used for the particular session. For example, a 178-pound person playing half-court basketball burns 8.3 calories per minute. If the person played one hour, the total calories burned would be 498.

Thus, it is easy to understand that physical activity plays a role in the loss of body fat, and the chart is useful in determining which activity helps you lose the most fat.

Federation suspends 11 weightlifters

MOSCOW (AP) — The International Weightlifting Federation has imposed a two-year suspension, including the 1984 Olympics, on the 11 weightlifters disqualified from the Pan American Games for using banned substances.

The suspension of the athletes — including a Cuban world record holder and an American — is effective from 14 August 1983, the date of the Pan Am Games, through 13 August, 1985.

The names of the suspended weightlifters were not released. However, the US weightlifter disqualified in the Pan Am Games was Jeff Michels, who had three gold medals taken from him when his drug test showed what a laboratory operated by Dr. Manfred Dovicke of West Germany considered abnormal amounts of testosterone.

Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing from 27 October, 1983

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th



An arrangement in the home which has been postponed several times can now be settled. Someone for whom you have always had great respect could put you in touch with an influential person this week, and this may be the first step to bettering your position worldwide. There could be a slight argument about a relative towards the end of this week, but this should very soon blow over. A surprise visitor is indicated around mid-week.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th



Your opposite number may put their feelings very clearly to you and thus your recent doubts will disappear. Domestic matters could be annoying — irritating little accidents could occur through carelessness, so keep your mind on the job in hand. This should be a very good time for sport or travel, for you should be feeling particularly fit, and in consequence, find life much gayer than of late.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th



This should be a happy-go-lucky relaxed week, when everything goes well with whatever you have on hand. The character of a person close to you will be revealed in a new light, and you should feel serenely confident that you have made the right choice. It seems likely that you will receive news this week of a financial increase in the near future, and you will feel proud of the fact that it is your own efforts which have brought this about.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th



Jealous undercurrents in a romance may have to be overcome before real happiness can be established to tolerance is called for. An extravagant purchase may be tempting, but it could turn out to be a disappointment so don't allow impulse to get the better of you. This could prove to be an excellent period for pushing ahead with new and ambitious plans, for there are indications of success in most of that which you attempt now.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th



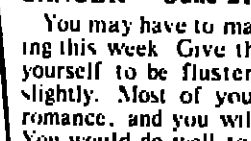
Though several changes will materialise, and life could be rather hectic during this week, a loved one will be surprisingly imaginative and arrange some pleasant and peaceful interludes. You could receive an invitation which may take you on an interesting and enjoyable journey some time during this week which could prove to be the means of sorting out a few minor irritations.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th



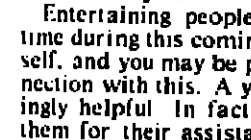
The more you follow up new contacts, during this week, and the more you give a helping hand, the greater will be your satisfaction. There should be a lively pattern of social activities, and you can make an excellent impression on new acquaintances. Where your romantic life is concerned, the indications are that this may be a little unsettled, as your emotions could fluctuate quite a bit, even surprising yourself.

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st



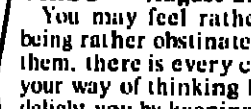
You may have to make quite an important decision during this week. Give this careful thought, and don't allow yourself to be flustered or you could set yourself back slightly. Most of your evenings may be taken up with romance, and you will rightly be feeling very optimistic. You would do well to be confident regarding your work, but at the same time, take care not to rush things, for the general trend seems to be in your direction.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st



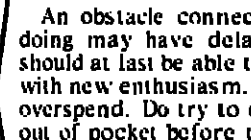
Entertaining people may take up quite a lot of your time during this coming week, but you should enjoy yourself, and you may be paid a very nice compliment in connection with this. A younger person could prove surprisingly helpful. In fact, you may almost feel indebted to them for their assistance. A slight tiff with a near one could arise some time this week, but this should be nothing for you to worry about.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st



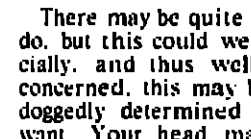
You may feel rather annoyed because of a near one being rather obstinate but if you explain things clearly to them, there is every chance that they will come around to your way of thinking before the weekend. A friend could delight you by keeping a long-standing promise to you. In your working life, you could be given the opportunity to impress a superior with your competence and thus should help financially.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd



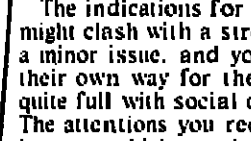
An obstacle connected with some work that you are doing may have delayed you somewhat, but now you should at last be able to overcome this, and press forward with new enthusiasm. It seems that there is a tendency to overspend. Do try to curb this, or you may find yourself out of pocket before the week is over. An old grievance which you may have could come to a head during this week.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st



There may be quite an amount of extra work for you to do, but this could well prove to be advantageous financially, and thus well worthwhile. Where romance is concerned, this may be a week in which you have to be doggedly determined in order to attain the notice you want. Your head may be full of good ideas, but do remember to think first and act later.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th



The indications for this week point to the fact that you might clash with a strong minded person, but this is only a minor issue, and you would do better to let them have their own way for the moment. Your evenings could be quite full with social events, which will go with a swing. The attentions you receive from a member of the opposite sex could do much to boost your ego, and reassure you regarding their feelings.

Thursday 27 October

Birthday Greetings to You. Romantically, the coming year should be a most eventful one. For the eligible ones amongst you, a person you meet around January or February period will be the bearer of great happiness in the future, and this could result in marriage towards the autumn period of next year. Those of you who are already married will soon be able to solve a problem which has been causing you and your partner some worry.

Travel will be much to the fore during the winter months, when you could have the opportunity to make a long journey of an exceptionally happy nature.

Socially, there are some wonderful surprises ahead of you. A new person you meet will, before very long, become a very close friend.

Friday 28 October

Birthday Greetings to You. Where finances are concerned, things should go quite well for you this year. You could receive a lump sum of money around the February period, and this will make you feel really secure. However, do guard against risky investments or spending sprees.

Family problems which may crop up towards the end of January may cause you a little worry, but you are well able to cope with these, and other relatives will be only too happy to assist you.

Where your career is concerned, the coming year should be a most eventful one, for all the hard work which you have been doing will reap rich rewards and could well mean promotion for you.

Sunday 30 October

Birthday Greetings to You. The year ahead looks like providing you with considerable chances to travel, and you should not turn down any offers in this respect, as there is financial gain at the end of it for you. Around the middle of March, you should beware of a speculation that someone will try to involve you in.

During the next six weeks, there could be a series of small events which you think will endanger your security. However, with your usual practicalness you will be able to tackle the situation and in the long run, you should benefit in a most surprising way.

Finances appear to be very good this year. You may receive a small windfall around mid-winter, and this will enable you to solve an outstanding problem, that has recently been causing you some anxiety.

Where your health is concerned, there should be great improvements indicated.

27 October 1983

Monday 31 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Be patient where a personal problem is concerned this month. You may suffer a little heartbreak, but ahead of you there is so much happiness that you will soon forget what now appears to be a great sorrow.

You can look forward to a year full of pleasant surprises and opportunities, with progress in all respects. The only thing to guard against is complacency once everything is running smoothly. This is no time to stop making an effort — on the contrary, you must strive a little more all the time.

This should be a much better year financially than for some time past. There could be either an inheritance or a windfall for you around March.

Tuesday 1 November

Birthday Greetings to You. For the single ones amongst you, you could begin to take a romantic interest in a person who has always been a great friend, and you will be delighted to realise that they feel the same way about you. There could be several memorable social events this year.

You have indeed a lucky year ahead — where work is concerned, someone in an influential position has been watching your efforts for some time, and as a result of the conscientious way you approach things, you are held in high esteem. You may be approached to take on a much more responsible position, and this in consequence, should benefit you financially.

An outstanding domestic difficulty will soon be put right by the intervention of an elderly person, and through them, you could learn a valuable lesson for the future.

Wednesday 2 November

Birthday Greetings to You. The coming year should be most eventful, as your plans will change quite considerably, and all the ambitions you have been secretly nursing should bear fruit within a short space of time.

As far as your personal life is concerned, there is great and lasting happiness ahead of you. Romance is in the air for the eligible ones amongst you, and for all, there is a gay social year ahead.

Travel may play quite a large part in your life during the coming twelve months. You could find yourself having to make short, but frequent trips, possibly in connection with business. Also, your holiday could include quite an amount of travelling.

Where your health is concerned, there should be great improvements indicated.

THE JERUSALEM STAR 27

New Zealander wins NYC marathon

NEW YORK (AP) — Over the past seven years, the New York City (NYC) Marathon captivated Bill Rodgers and Alberto Salazar into marathon stardom. But this year's winner, Rod Dixon, an Olympic runner competing in only his second marathon, isn't sure he'll continue along that path. "Marathoning is a discipline all its own," the 33-year-old New Zealander said Sunday after overtaking Britain's Geoff Smith at the 41.6 kilometre mark, outkicking him in the final 350 metres for a dramatic victory in 2 hours, 8 minutes, 59 seconds. "I'm not sure I'm ready to do it all the time. I may be looking back to the track next year," Dixon said.

Picking his main race for 1984 will be important for Dixon, since it is an Olympic year. He already has competed in two Olympics. In 1972 at Munich, he earned a bronze medal in the 1,500 metres, and in 1976 at Montreal, he was fourth in the 5,000 metres, finishing only seven-tenths of a second behind gold medalist Lasse said Dixon. "The New York City Marathon was like the Olympics for me," the Olympian said, who had trained intensely for the race. "I hope to do something in the Olympics next year but this was something special. But I'm not sure I'm a marathoner entirely."

Dixon struggled through the rain-drenched streets of New York City's five-boroughs and often grabbed at his right hamstring, an indication that he was hurting, but he pushed hard enough to catch the struggling Smith, who had led for nearly 17 kilometres.

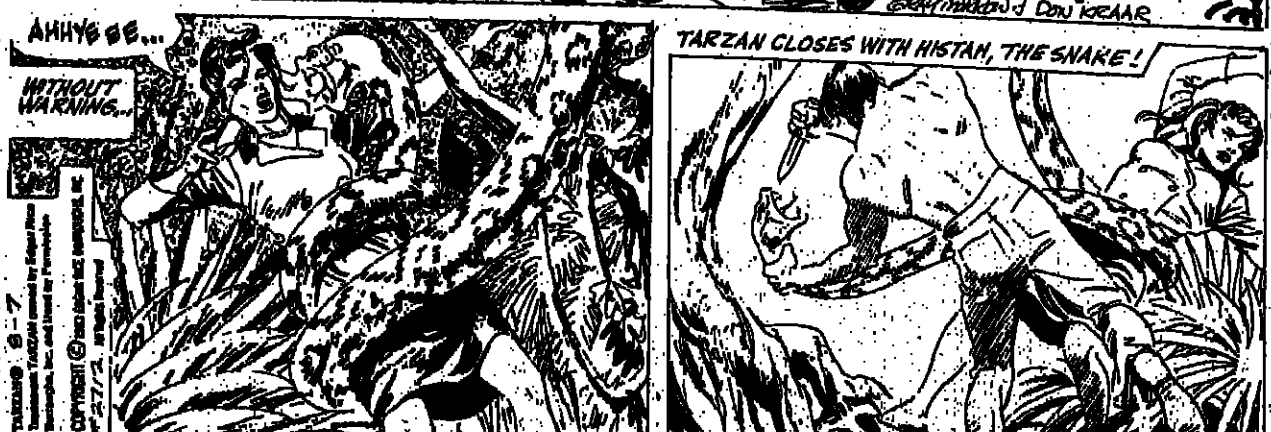
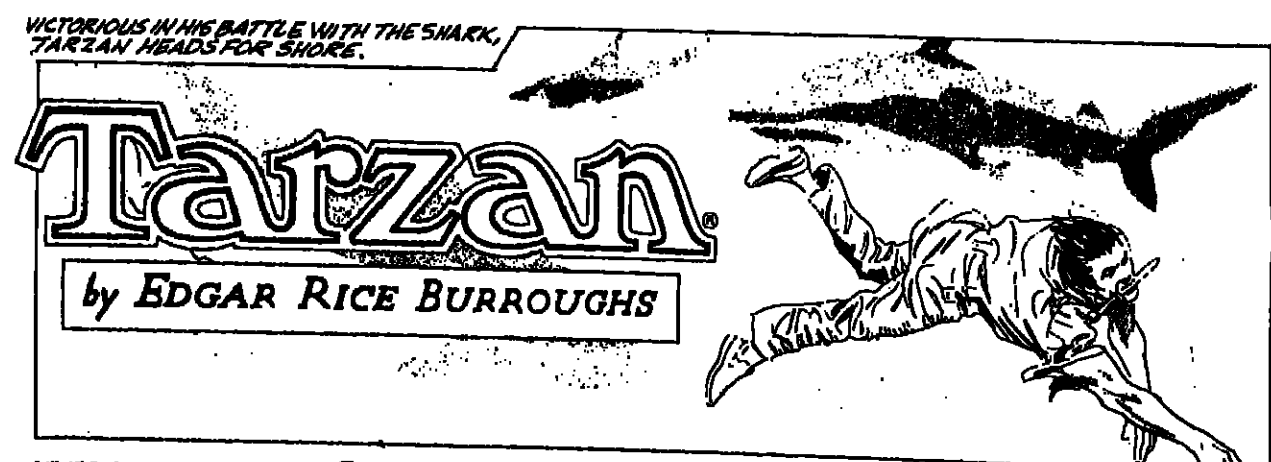
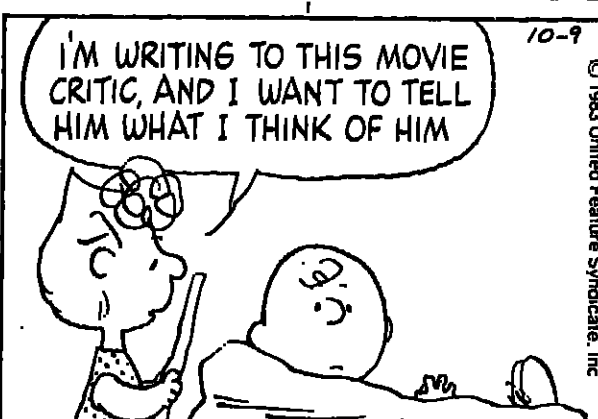
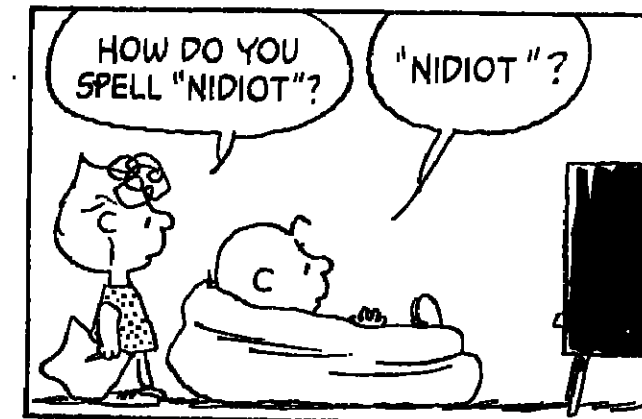
Smith was disappointed in not winning, but he could take solace in the fact that his time of 2 hours 9 minutes 08 seconds was the fastest ever by a first-time marathoner.

PEANUTS

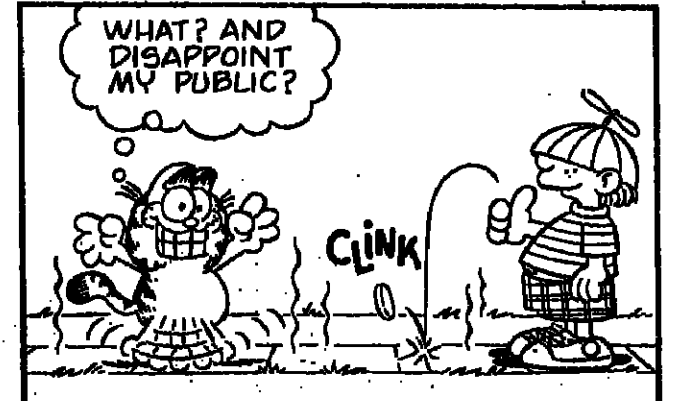
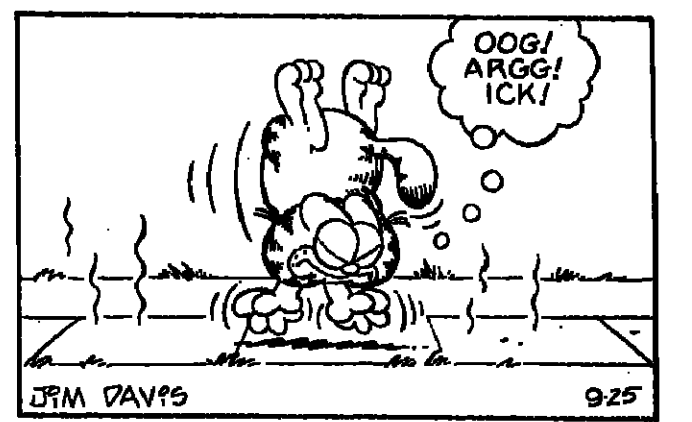
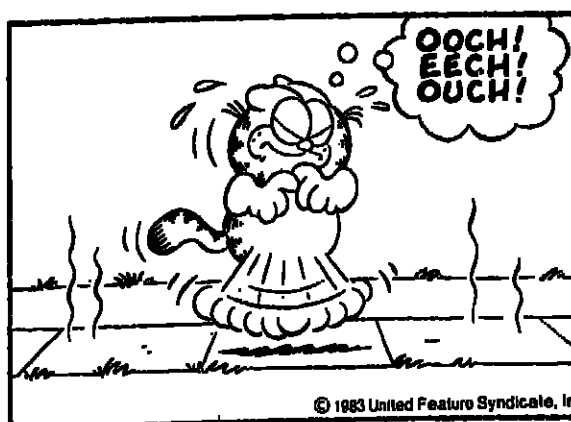
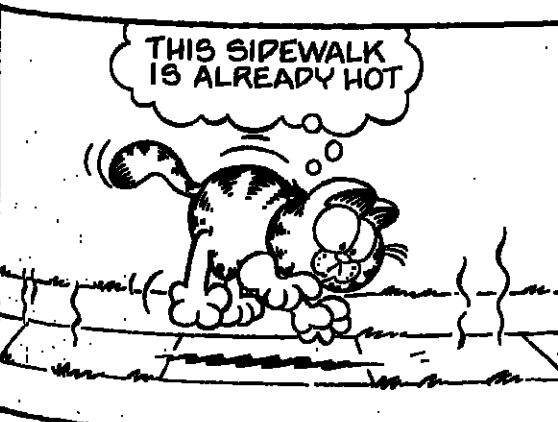
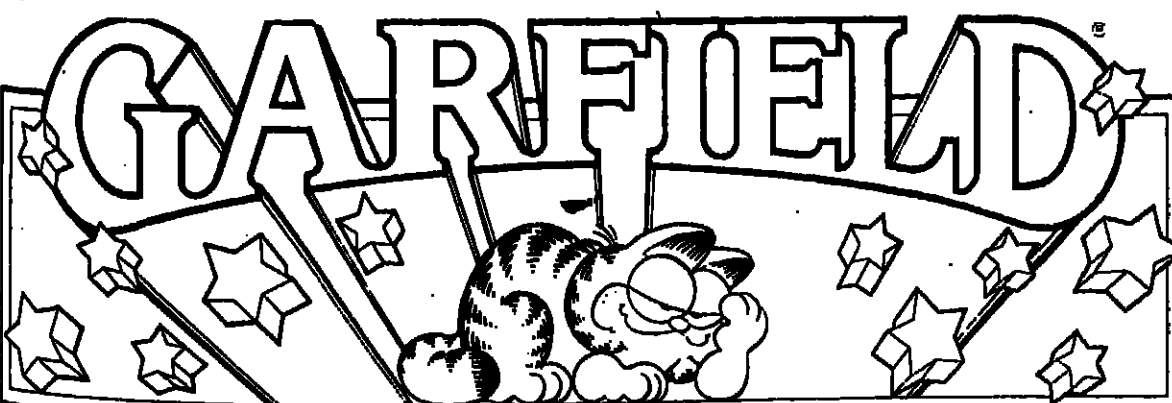
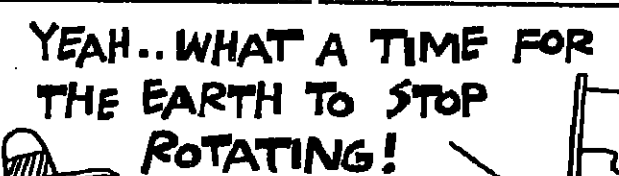
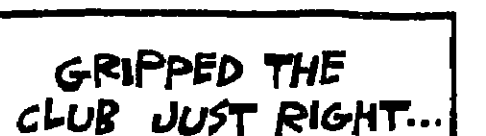
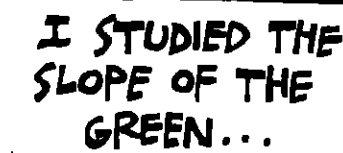
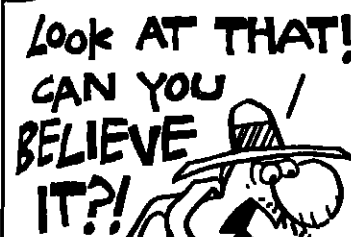
featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



Dear Sir,



FRANK AND ERNEST



4/21/85

Cuba, West European nations criticize invasion of Grenada

PARIS (AP) — Cuba and the United States clashed Wednesday at a UNESCO meeting over the US invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada.

Cuban Minister of Culture Armando Hart interrupted the general conference to strongly denounce the invasion by troops from the United States and six Caribbean nations. American delegate James D. Phillips defended the action.

Speaking to the 160-nation meeting of the UN educational, scientific and cultural organization that opened Tuesday, Mr. Hart appealed to member countries to show their solidarity with the people of Grenada in the face of the Yankee invasion so that foreign troops are withdrawn.

Cuban delegate criticizes US invasion

Mr. Hart charged the United States with violating the independence and territorial integrity of Grenada as well as the UN Charter. He said Cuba had done all it could to prevent such a situation developing and asserted that Cubans on the island would defend themselves if fighting continued. Mr. Hart explained that the Cubans on the island were not soldiers but civilian aid workers with the exception of a few dozen military advisers who worked with late Prime Minister Maurice bishop.

Hart sat down to strong applause and Phillips took the floor to protest that the Cuban declaration had not been interrupted contrary to the procedure of the conference. Mr. Phillips said the American invasion was in response to a formal request by the countries of the Western

Caribbean to restore democracy in the island. "We had to face up to a breakdown in public order without precedent in a neighbouring country," Phillips said, adding that when order was restored the United States will withdraw its troops as soon as possible.

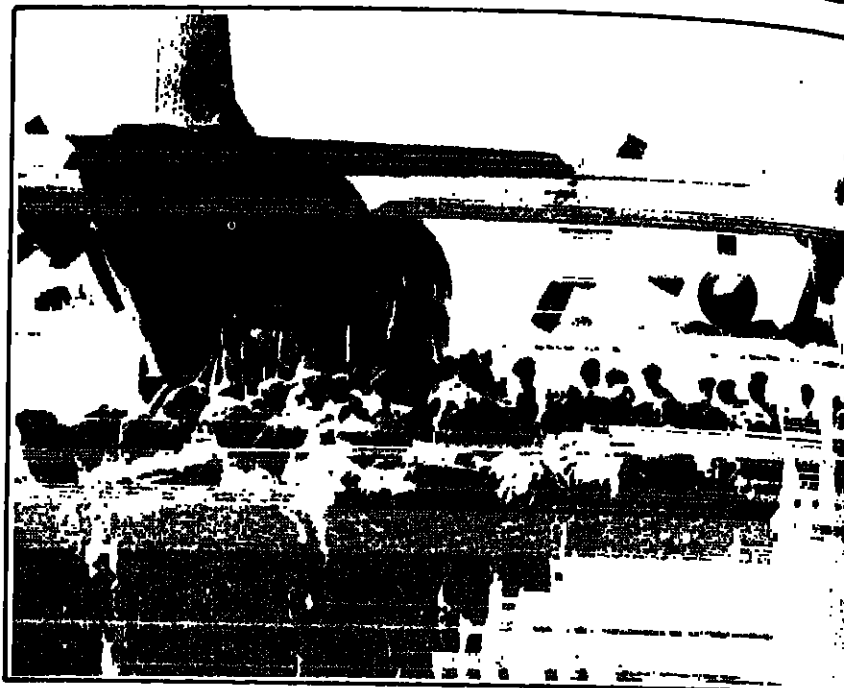
Reactions in Western Europe

Amid reports that the US-led invasion, undertaken against British advice, has badly strained relations between London and Washington, the House of Commons prepared to debate the crisis in emergency session Wednesday.

The Daily Telegraph said US-British diplomatic relations had been placed under severe strain and that British government ministers were astonished by the American decision to invade the Caribbean island nation, a British colony until 1974.

Another London newspaper, the Daily Mail, spoke of the widest rift in Anglo-American relations since Suez, a reference to the 1956 Suez Canal crisis when Britain, France and Israel invaded Egypt after it nationalized the waterway. American opposition forced them to withdraw and disagreement over the British role led to the resignation of Prime Minister Anthony Eden.

The London Times said President Ronald Reagan defied Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's appeal not to go ahead with the invasion. It quoted a senior unnamed Pentagon official as saying there was a deep sense of outrage in the Reagan's Adminis-



American troops board a military C-130 transport plane at Grantley Adams airport in Barbados en route to Grenada (AP Wirephoto)

tration over Britain's refusal to participate in the invasion.

Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann Jensen said his country's centre-right coalition had some understanding of Washington's professed desire to safeguard the 1,000 Americans in Grenada. "I must be sceptical about the second announced motive, that of securing peace and law and order in the island," said Jensen.

In neutral Switzerland, some newspapers condemned the US action in unusually

strong terms. The centre-right Daily Mail said "Reagan has yet again been misled as a trigger-happy cowboy."

In Italy, Milan's moderate daily Giornale called the intervention a "highly tactical risk," and Rome's pro-communist unita said it was an open secret that West European communist parties were outraged.

French communist party spokesman Pierre Juquin, called the invasion "a violation of international law."

British foreign office minister to visit the Middle East

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — In the wake of Sunday's bomb attacks in Beirut, in which more than 200 soldiers of the multinational peacekeeping force were killed, Britain is joining with the United States, France and Italy in an urgent review of the political and military implications of the bomb outrages.

On Monday, the Commander in Chief of British land forces, General (Sir) Frank Kitson, made an urgent visit to Beirut to study the security of the 97-strong British contingent. The commandant of the US Marine corps, General Paul Kelley, arrived shortly afterwards and French and Italian generals are expected to follow.

In London, there was an immediate reaction to the bomb attacks. The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said they were "hideously malevolent by any standards." And Mr. Richard Luce, the foreign office minister spoke of the "the gigantic atrocity" in Beirut. The Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher, immediately sent messages of condolence to Presidents Reagan and Mitterrand.

Although none of the British contingent was harmed in the weekend attacks — and indeed the 97 British soldiers have so far escaped unscathed — the role of the multinational force has again been called strongly into question in London. When Parliament reassembled this week, the opposition Labour Party called for the withdrawal of the force, saying that they have outlived their usefulness and are now 'sitting ducks for terrorists.' In this they were joined by a number of senior conservative Members of Parliament.

But Sir Geoffrey Howe said it would be quite the wrong time to take such a decision, particularly when further troops from Greece and Italy are due to arrive in Lebanon soon as supervisors of the cease-fire. In a radio interview, Sir Geoffrey said that the various groups of people in Lebanon who are still arguing about where and when to hold talks on national reconciliation ought to be shocked into a sense of urgency by the tragic deaths of the young American and French soldiers, who were on a mission of peace.



Mr. Richard Luce

Mr. Richard Luce, in another radio interview, conceded that the government would have to review the position of British troops in Lebanon, but he said that this would be done dispassionately and calmly and not as a sudden reaction to terrorist action.

Mr. Luce, who has visited the British contingent (which has its headquarters in a disused factory at Hadeth, only 700 metres from the American headquarters) is scheduled to visit the Middle East next week and the deteriorating situation in Lebanon is one of the main items on the agenda of his talks with Middle East leaders. He is due to visit Israel next Monday, 31 October, travelling to Jordan on 3 November and to Egypt on 6 November.

Other subjects for Mr. Luce's talks are the international tension arising from the Iran-Iraq war and the possibility of reviving the Reagan peace plan for the West Bank. Mr. Luce mentioned the Reagan plan at a lunch for diplomatic writers last week, and the dangers in the Gulf were discussed with Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, during his brief visit to London last week.

Saudi Arabia hails economic co-operation with the US

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia's minister of finance and national economy paid tribute Wednesday to technical help extended by the United States to the Kingdom's vast-scale development programmes.

At a press conference which he held jointly with the US Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, Mohammed Abul-Khair said the scale of cooperation under the umbrella of the Joint Economic Commission whose eighth round they just concluded was the widest in scope linking Saudi Arabia to any other country in the world.

He said the Commission had provided a tremendous push to development of social services, because the Kingdom planned to direct modern technology and investments to develop agriculture and mining. US technology was to help overcome some impediments, such as shortage of labour and raw materials. "The use of modern technology in modern Saudi Arabia is one of the most important objectives on which the commission concentrates," he said.

He said that the deficit estimated for 1984 would be offset by drawing on the country's reserves and by imposing taxes. Regan, who came to Saudi Arabia for a session with King Fahd, Crown Prince Abdullah and Defence Minister Prince Sultan before leaving Kuwait, merely stated at the conference that the work of the commission since its inception had been excellent.

He also said that the Commission was advancing its efforts in the field of education, services and the private sector.

The Commission meets annually and its next session in 1984 will be in Washington, D.C. A joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the two-day session referred to three new accords. One was designed to develop Saudi Arabia's Crescent first-aid operations for oil field planning and training, another for cooperation in the field of space science, and the third for developing research and power and seawater desalination including US training of Saudi personnel.

New Middle East peace initiative

AMMAN (Star) — Britain and France are reported to be forging a new initiative for peace in the Middle East. Israeli army radio monitored here Wednesday said the new initiative will be based on the Venice Declaration and President Reagan's peace initiative.

This was the outcome of a meeting last week between the British Prime Minister Mrs. Thatcher and French President Francois Mitterrand in London. The radio said the new move will be announced early next year when France assumes the chairmanship of the EEC annual session.

The initiative, said the radio, recognises the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories.

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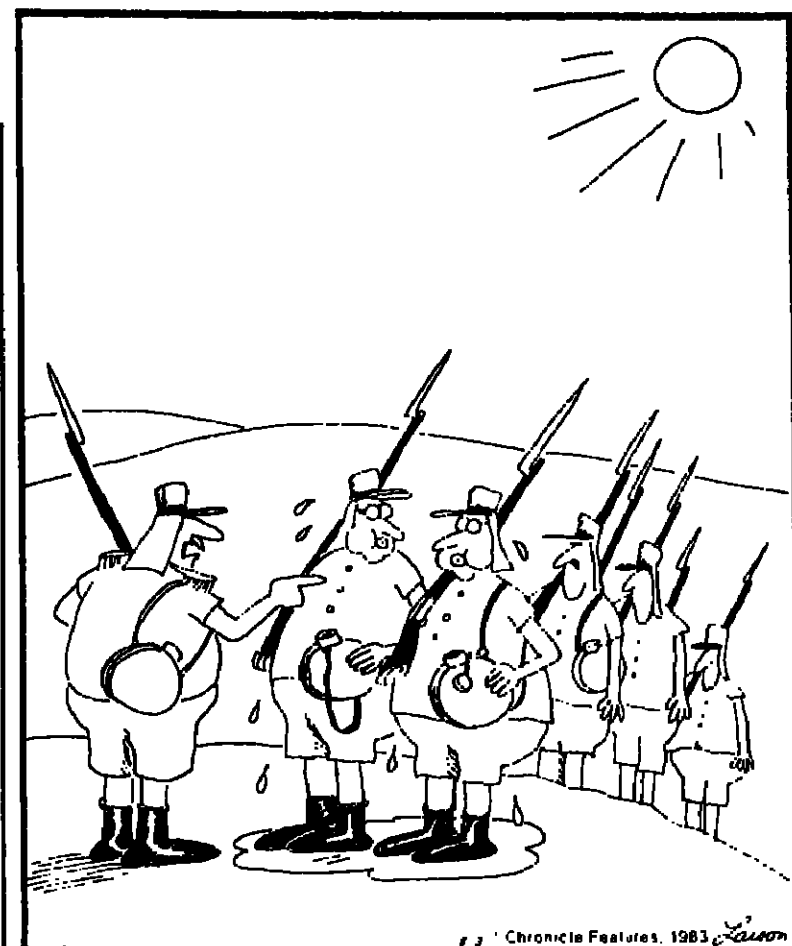
Mrs. Mufida Abdul Majeed



Children in Hajja Mufida's life work

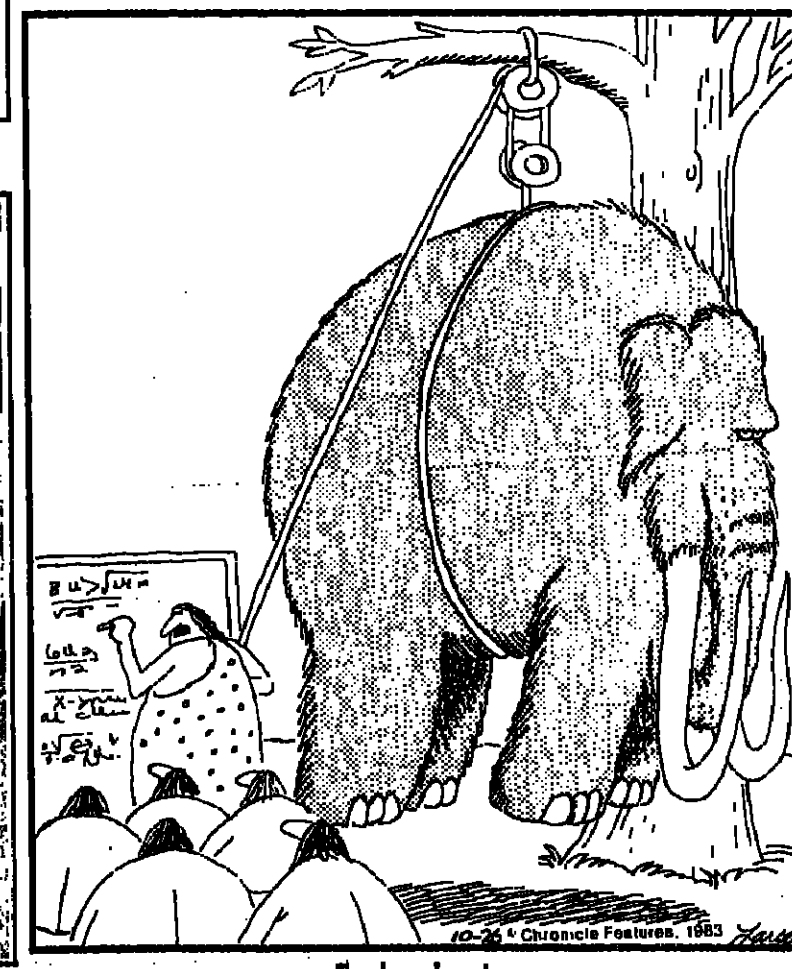


school gives boys a second chance



"Halt! ... Okay! Johnson! Higgins! ... You both just swallow what you've got and knock off these water fights once and for all!"

The Far Side By Gary Larson



Early physics